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COMMENT OF THE DAY

New Effort

IAST week's Three Power note to Russia offering to withdraw the "short treaty" relating to Austria represents another effort to get a full peace treaty agreed on and signed, and a ten-year promise to the Austrian people fulfilled. It was in October 1943 that the governments of Britain, the United States and Russia declared their wish, at the end of the war, to "see re-established a free and independent Austria." The first attempt to give substance to this promise was at a Moscow meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers in the spring of 1947. Then, largely at the instance of the late Mr. Ernest Bevin it was agreed to work at once on the drafting of a treaty. But this apparent early success proved to be an illusion. The Commission, and later the Foreign Ministers Deputies, entrusted with the work of drafting, encountered one difficulty after another. The most serious were occasioned by Russian insistence on the cession of a strip of Austrian Carinthia to Yugoslavia, and by Russian economic demands. The first subject was dropped immediately after the breach between Stalin and Tito, but the economic demands remained. Principally they centred round the Soviet claim, under the Potsdam agreement, to all "German assets" in Austria. In effect this meant the transfer to Russia of complete control of Austria's economy which the Nazis had established after the Anschluss. Austria's "independence" would have been nominal. She would have become an economic appendage of the Soviet Empire.

NOR did this remain the only issue of dispute. Three years ago Russia injected a completely new and quite irrelevant demand into the discussions. The Soviets insisted that they be given complete satisfaction with regard to their complaints about Anglo-American policy and conduct in the free territory of Trieste. It was a demand which had to be refused, for, apart from every other consideration, acceptance would have opened the way for any number of similarly irrelevant demands as the price of the conclusion of a treaty. It was this action by the Russians which brought to an end all discussion of the treaty draft, and led last year to the decision of the Big Three to attempt to break the deadlock by proposing a "short treaty." The proposal, in effect, was that Austria should at once regain its full independence; that Allied control and Allied troops should be withdrawn; and that all three powers should waive claims of any kind on the Austrian economy. The Soviet Government not only rejected the proposal. It insisted on its formal withdrawal as a condition for the resumption of any kind of negotiation. Last week's note is intended to get rid of this artificial obstacle and to secure at least a resumption of negotiations. It is now suggested that the Foreign Ministers Deputies should meet again, but on the proviso that the Russians will not introduce any extraneous issues, and that the Soviet Union is prepared to conclude a treaty that will ensure Austria's political and economic independence. The Russians have given certain signs that they are willing to waive previous economic demands, but until they have officially replied to the Three Power note and accepted its proposals, an early Austrian peace treaty cannot be confidently predicted.

Persian Army Swoops On Reds' Secret HQ

ALL-OUT DRIVE AGAINST TUDEH PARTY ORDERED

Teheran, Aug. 24.

Persian troops in armoured cars swooped on two secret headquarters of the underground Communist Tudeh Party today.

The Communists were planning new attempts to grab power and dozens were arrested.

Troops also seized stacks of leaflets appealing to the people to rise against the Shah and Premier Zahedi, and numerous pictures of Russia's Malenkov.

The raid is expected to uncover the whereabouts of secret Tudeh men.

An Army general stated "The danger has not yet passed. The Tudeh is planning to strike again."

Tonight General Zahedi ordered an all-out drive by the Police and Army against the Tudeh.

Americans Pelted With Stones

Unrest in Morocco

Rabat, Aug. 24.

Terrorist violence exploded against American servicemen in Morocco today while France hastily prepared new democratic reforms for the tense protectorate.

French police reported that two carloads of Americans returning to the United States from a base at Nouaceur were pelted with building blocks by natives.

The windshields of both cars were smashed but the drivers managed to escape and no substantial injuries were reported.

Sabotage attempts were increasing. The crack Casablanca-Algiers express was derailed at top speed by a gang of expert saboteurs, killing two persons and injuring 12 among the 200 passengers.

Two stone barricades were erected on mountain roads near Azemmour where the night at spots where hairpin bends on the edge of precipices hid the obstruction.

No motorists passed the spot until daylight exposed the traps.

WORKING ON PLAN

Informed sources said French experts were working both here and in Paris on government changes to give Moroccan a larger share in the administration and also to allow wider participation in elections and municipal affairs.

Some quarters said Paris might try to announce the broad lines of its new programme by Wednesday or Thursday after a Cabinet meeting to head off United Nations criticism of French action in getting rid of the pro-Nationalist, anti-French former ruler and replacing him with a pro-French Sultan, Sidi Mohammed ben Moulay Arafa.

The Arab and Asian nations have asked the United Nations Security Council to act against France for allegedly violating its protectorate treaty and threatening the peace of North Africa.

The reforms also could help offset Nationalist demands for increased home rule.—United Press.

Bomber Crashes Near Tokyo

Tokyo, Aug. 25.

A United States Air Force B-29 Superfortress crashed and burned in the hills 25 miles southwest of Tokyo last night after its 43 crew members had bailed out, the Japanese police reported today.

Four of the men who parachuted were reported missing and search parties were out looking for them.

The B-29 was attached to the 10th Air Force stationed on Okinawa and was reported to be on route from Okinawa to Yokota air base near here.—United Press.

He warned: "Any attempt to create new disturbances will be dealt with in only one way—death."

The swoop on the Communists came after Zahedi withdrew tanks and troops from Teheran. General Zahedi has stressed that his is no military Government and has announced elections for a new Parliament starting in one month's time.—London Express Service.

WILLING TO HELP

Washington, Aug. 24.

The United States is eager to see Iran's tottering economy stabilised and undoubtedly would give quick consideration to a plea for financial help, American officials said today.

But they said that no such request had been received. If an emergency request is made, one source said, it probably will be referred immediately to the highest levels for a decision because of Iran's strategic importance to the West in the cold war with Russia.

In other words, President Eisenhower himself likely would decide how much, if any, emergency financial support the new Government of Premier Fazlollah Zahedi will get from the United States.

Mr. Eisenhower is vacationing in Denver and no one in the capital would voice even the most tentative sort of commitment on the basis of the Shah of Iran's statement to newsmen yesterday that his country needs help "in a matter of days."

Iran now is receiving from the United States an undisclosed amount of military aid and approximately \$23,000,000 in technical assistance funds.

AUTHORISED FUNDS

Congress this year authorized \$180,000,000 for technical aid and special economic help to Near Eastern and African countries. Some of this money could be transferred to Iran.

Officials here recalled that Mr. Eisenhower told the ousted Iranian Premier, Mohammed Mossadegh, on June 29 that American aid to Iran would be continued on the current scale.

At that time Mr. Eisenhower balked at increasing the aid pending solution of Iran's oil dispute with Britain. The President said that it would be unfair to American taxpayers for their Government to extend major new aid to Iran so long as that country could have access to funds from its oil deposits.

Before its dispute with Britain, which resulted in a shut-down of its oil industry, Iran received \$100,000,000 annually in petroleum royalties, wages and taxes. There was unacknowledged pleasure here when Mossadegh was ousted by the Shah's loyal followers in a revolt last week. But the U.S. attitude toward extending major aid to the new Government has yet to be defined.—United Press.

Jumps Overboard: Swims 8 Miles

Hawaii, Aug. 24.

A 22-year-old Japanese student who drowned away on the liner President Wilson jumped overboard and swam eight miles through rough water to the shore, the police said today.

Yozo, who said he was a chemist's apprentice in Japan, was held at the Lihue police station. He was to be flown to Honolulu later today and turned over to the immigration authorities.—United Press.



UN COMMITTEE IS TOLD

South Korea Cannot Collaborate With India

New York, Aug. 24.

South Korea told the United Nations Political Committee here today it would find it "next to impossible" to collaborate with India on the same side at the forthcoming Korean peace conference.

The South Korean Foreign Minister, Mr. Pyun Yung Tai, told the Committee: "The Republic of Korea finds it next to impossible to collaborate with India on the same side. If India openly stood on the Communist side, it would be different."

"We should then be sorry to lose India so definitely like that. But we should prefer it to having a betraying and scheming India on our side."

Mr. Pyun accused India of having "appeased the Communist aggressors while having not sent one single soldier to defend freedom."

But it now willingly despatched thousands of troops to guard "the Kremlin" created in Korea where defenceless anti-Communist prisoners will be indoctrinated or brainwashed into Communism for many long years.

He alleged that India entertained "mortal fear" of Communist China and had to use every means to pacify the Communists to stay the impending Communist blow.

REVERSE PROCESS

Mr. Pyun declared: "It must be apparent to everybody that the only way for both the United Nations and the free world to survive is to reverse the process of appeasement which the past actions of India have typified."

"If the political conference should prove another sequel of appeasement the hope of the free world would be at an end and the foundations of the United Nations fall apart."

"Unfortunately nothing would more manifestly preclude the continuance of appeasement in the political conference than the participation of India so long as India remains what it has been."

"With or without collusion with the enemy, India master-

Trains Collide

This is how one coach finished after two trains had collided on a viaduct near the Victoria Station, Manchester last week. Five people were killed in this coach, and altogether there were ten fatalities.—London Express picture.

Police Cordon Off National Buildings

Paris, Aug. 24.

Police and riot squads in steel helmets tonight cordoned off the national buildings as the Bureau of the Assembly met to consider recalling Parliament to deal with the nationwide strike wave.

The Bureau refused the demand of left-wingers that Parliament should be recalled. A number of Socialist and Popular Republican Deputies at the last moment withdrew their requests that the Assembly be recalled as an emergency measure instead of remaining in recess until October 18. They thus thwarted the supporters of an emergency session, who at one time had mustered 208 Deputies for their cause. This was only one fewer than they need under the constitution.

The decision of the Bureau, consisting of 23 Deputies chosen to reflect party strength in the full Assembly, looks like being final unless the strikes last another five or six days and revive demands for an emergency session.

There were no signs of disorder outside the Assembly building, though between 400 and 500 demonstrators in factory clothes had gathered nearby. They were believed to be Communist-led.

MILD HOOTING

A few girls hooted mildly at a passing bus which had returned to the roads. The driver waved back cheerfully.

The 18-day old strikes continued with only slightly improved mail and transport services despite weekend settlements between the Government and the non-Communist unions. The Communist-led General Confederation of Labour (CGT) is urging the men to stay out until their full demands including basic wage raises are conceded.

The outlook for immediate improvement appeared gloomy tonight after a meeting of senior Cabinet Ministers had decided that workers would not be paid for the days during which they were out.

Since the Bureau's decision not to recall Parliament, Socialist Deputies have announced their intention to relaunch their campaign in view of the continued social unrest and widespread dissatisfaction among workers.

Communist trade union leaders were expected to exploit the refusal to recall Parliament to prolong and extend the strike movement.

It was officially announced tonight that state workers who returned to work on Tuesday would not be subject to Government sanctions.

The only exceptions would be workers guilty of "grave offences" such as sabotage or violence.—Reuter.

Reds Say 400 POWs Refuse Repatriation

Tokyo, Aug. 25.

The Communists have formally notified the United Nations Command that "about 400" Allied prisoners of war have declared that they do not wish to be repatriated, Radio Peking said today.

It was the first Communist figure on the number of United Nations men who have chosen Communism over freedom.

Prisoners returned from North Korean prison camps in Operation "Big Switch" have reported that as many as 135 American and British prisoners chose to remain behind.

Peking said, in a broadcast monitored in Tokyo, that the Communists formally notified the United Nations of the number of prisoners refusing repatriation at a meeting of the Joint Repatriation Commission in Panmunjom on August 20.

"The Korean-Chinese side did its best to persuade them to return to their country, but some of these still refused to be repatriated," said the broadcast.

Peking said the Communists "never conducted a so-called 'screening' on United Nations prisoners of war held in their custody"—United Press.

Storm Causes 45 Deaths

Santiago, Aug. 24.

At least 45 persons were known dead today in the wake of the worst storms to hit Central Chile and Western Argentina in 50 years.

The latest fatalities were reported from Las Lomas, a station on the trans-Andean railway on the Argentinean slopes of the Andes.

An Argentine Navy lieutenant and a civilian with his wife and two children were killed when the station was buried by an avalanche. It was feared the casualties would be higher.—United Press.

Latest Picture Of Sir Winston



Returns Again To London

London, Aug. 24.

The Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill, left his country manor Chartwell and motored to London this evening to spend the night at 10 Downing Street.

Sir Winston will preside at a meeting of his Cabinet here tomorrow afternoon.

Onlookers gave the 78-year-old statesman a rousing cheer as he stepped from his car at the door of No. 10. Soon afterwards, the Minister of Labour, Sir Walter Monks, arrived to dine with the premier.—United Press.

Police Hunt For Prison Escapees

Nairobi, Aug. 24.

Police patrols today scoured Nairobi's African locations for prisoners who escaped from a remand gaol here yesterday after a lunch time riot.

Eighteen prisoners broke from the gaol compound when 200 convicts staged a demonstration as they lined up for their meals. Seven had been recaptured by late today.

The Deputy-Commissioner of Prisons, Mr. Bruce Donald, said today the riot began when a prisoner suddenly threw his food on the ground complaining it was insufficient and hurled a heavy metal plate at an African prison guard.

Mr. Donald said none of the escapees were Mau Mau suspects.—Reuter.

The Completely New **dodge** for 1953



New Shipment - Just Arrived
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QUEEN'S ROAD TEL. 1137

KING'S PRINCESS EMPIRE

SHOWING TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.40 P.M.

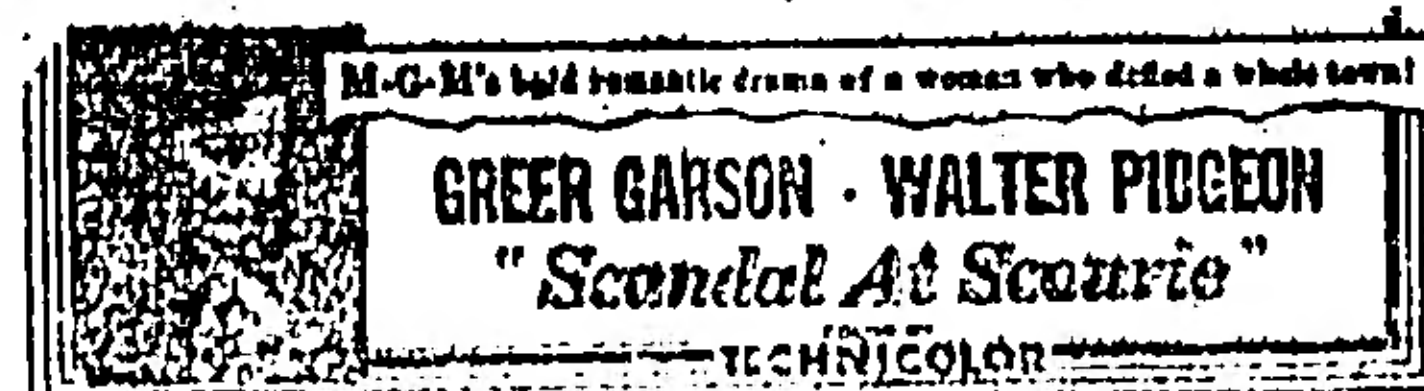


COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS ARE NOT VALID

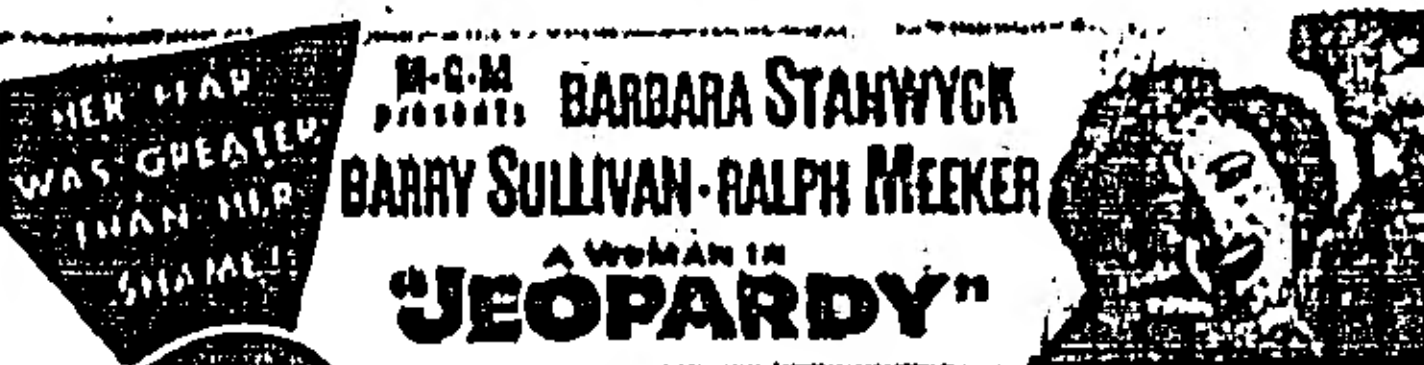
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THE HOME OF M-G-M PICTURES
Capital Town Booking Office
Wing Hong Firm, Hong Kong Hotel, Queen's Road, C.

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AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



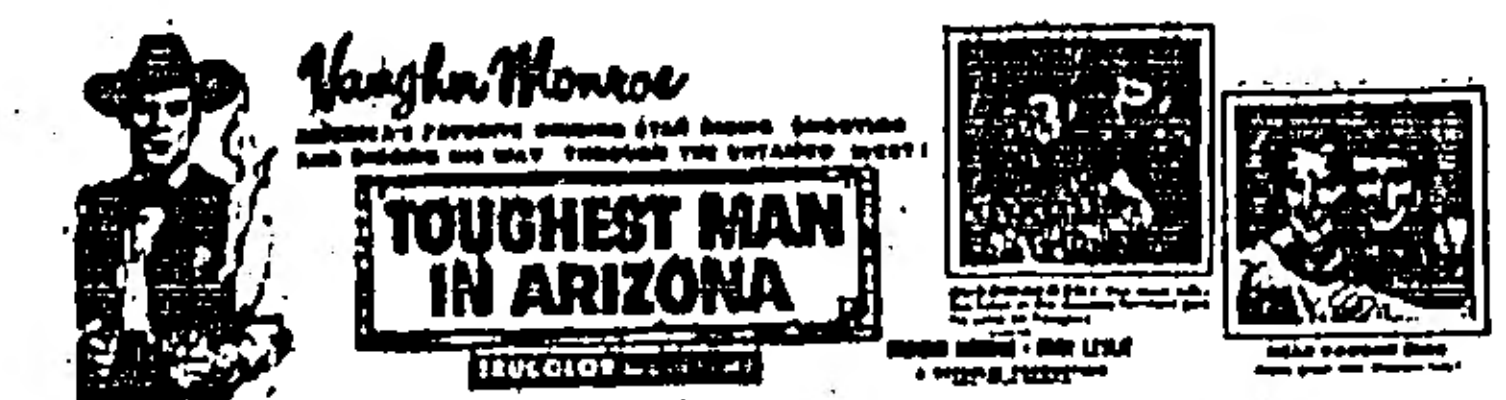
★ NEXT CHANGE ★



TO-DAY & TO-MORROW ONLY
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



NEXT CHANGE



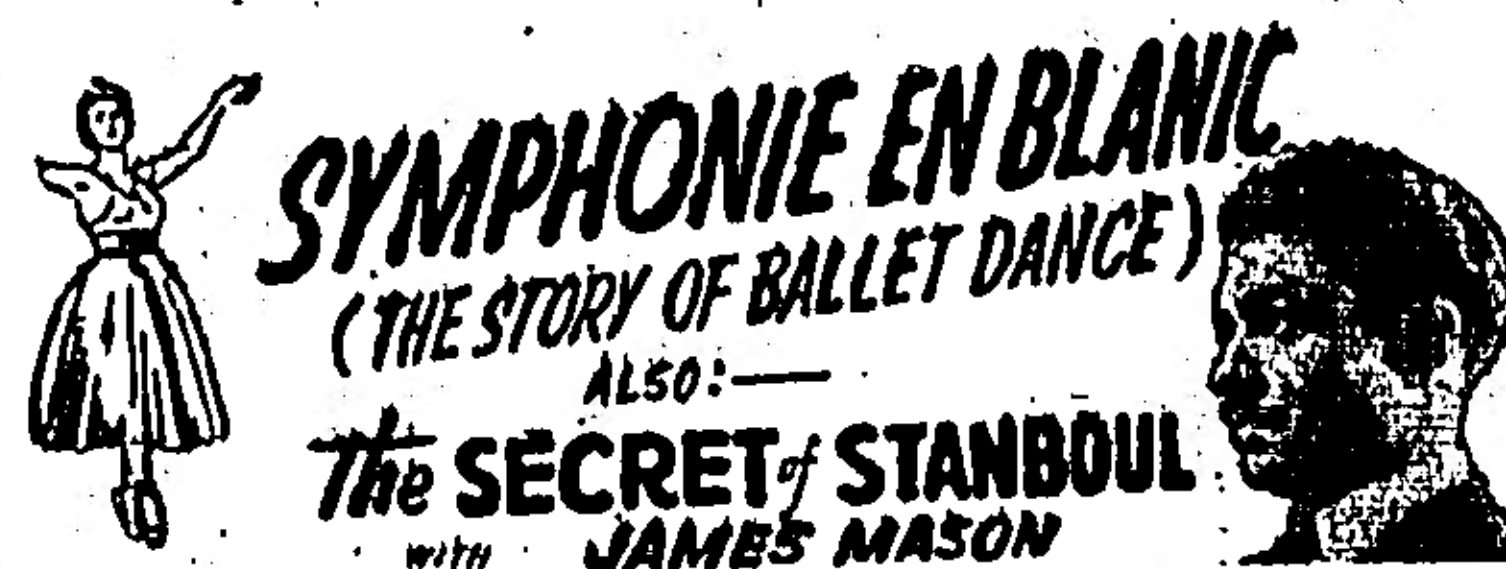
ORIENTAL AIR CONDITIONED

SHOWING TO-DAY: 2.30—5.30—7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

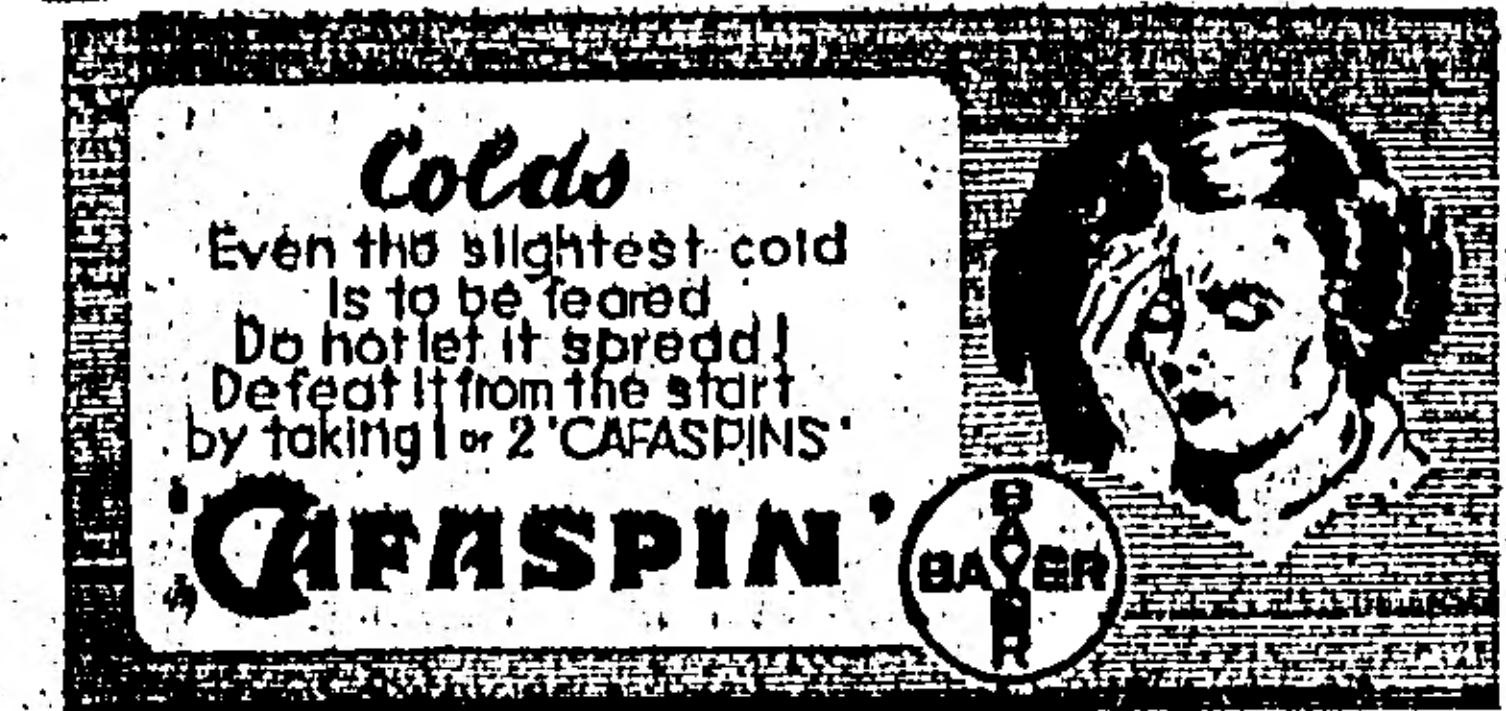
A Chinese film in Mandarin Dialogue... Starring Miss Lam Doi, the most talked about Actress in her first hit!



FINAL SHOWING **STAR** AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



To-morrow: Betty Davis in "ANOTHER MAN'S POISON"



Rubber Prices Too Low

Malayan Viewpoint Explained

Washington, Aug. 24. Sir Sydney Palmer, a leading spokesman for Malaya's natural rubber industry, said today that Indonesia might be forced to sell rubber behind the Iron Curtain due to the present low prices of natural rubber.

Sir Sydney held a press conference at the National Rubber Bureau here, chiefly on rubber conditions in Malaya.

He said: "Malaya would be the last country to sell rubber behind the Iron Curtain, but pressure for this might increase if sales of rubber continue at the present low prices."

He explained that he wanted the United States Administration as soon as possible to increase the price of synthetic rubber from the present 23 cents a pound to what he termed an economic market price of 25-27 cents a pound.

If that happened, he added, then he hoped natural rubber would increase from the present price of 21 1/4 cents a pound for comparable types of natural rubber to about 25-26 cents a pound, when a moderate profit could be made.

Sir Sydney admitted that consumption of natural rubber in the United States had increased considerably in the last three months, but said the low prices did not benefit the industry.

MALAYAN REQUEST

He explained that, as a result of the low price of natural rubber, about 600,000 smallholders' families in Malaya were earning only the equivalent of US\$20 a month, and that was very near starvation level.

He pointed out that a drop in the price of rubber of only three cents a pound for Southeast Asian natural rubber represented a loss of US\$170,000,000.

Malaya had asked the Colonial Office to see what it could do to make representations to the United States for bringing the price of synthetic rubber up to competitive and open market prices, but he did not know just how far the Colonial Office had gone in this matter.

Sir Sydney also said that, as the result of the low prices of rubber, Malaya could no longer pay most of its defence against the Communist guerrillas and the British Government had to increase the amount of funds it gives to Malaya.

He added that the low price of rubber prevented the Malayan authorities from increasing the welfare and standard of living of the people, the best insurance against Communism.—United Press.

Bank Loan To Japan Assured?

Washington, Aug. 24. Authoritative sources said today that the International Bank in mid-September would grant Japan a loan of about \$41,000,000 for the development of thermal electric power plants in Kyushu, Chubu and Kansai.

Bank officials today received the first formal papers recommending that the loan be granted after all investigative procedures had been completed. The International Committee of the Bank was expected to put its approval on the loan this week, after which it would go to the Board of Directors for final action.

Some officials believe the loan might be announced during the annual meeting of the Bank, which begins here on September 8. The Japanese intend to use the money to buy thermal power equipment from Westinghouse and General Electric in this country.

The Japanese originally had asked the United States Export-Import Bank for the money for this project. However, last May they were told that the policy of the new administration was to channel such loans into private American banks or the International Bank. The Japanese then began negotiating with the International Bank and have made rapid progress since that time.

Officials believe the loan agreement might well be signed when the new Japanese Finance Minister comes here for the World Bank meeting next month. International Bank officials said there were no question whatever but that the loan would be granted within the next few weeks.—United Press.

SIGNS OF DISCONTENT IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA ARE CLEARLY DISCERNIBLE

The signs of discontent in Czechoslovakia are clear. Next year, Prague observers said, will tell the story. They said the lack of repairs and shoddy substitutes under five years of Communism had reached the point of diminishing returns.

This most highly industrialized country in Eastern Europe with the highest standard of living and the last to fall to Communism is the least predictable.

Czechoslovakia had almost everything before the Communists took over and began diverting the national products to Russia. Even now a walk through Prague generally shows no more and no less elegance or poverty than a stroll through Rome, Paris or London. You can't say that of Budapest or Bucharest.

There was a verified workers' revolt in Pilsen in June after drastic currency reform wiped out savings and pensions. Pilsen and its suburbs in other cities and villages, in mines and factories.

They could take place again. But no matter how embittered or confused the citizens may be they show no outward sign yet of readiness to risk any large-scale organized bid for freedom from the Reds.

VERY WORRIED
The Communist rulers of Hungary are trying to give their regime a new look with offers of concessions to workers and farmers who have been regimented strictly for seven years.

Under Premier Imre Nagy, Hungary has committed itself to more "reform" than the so-called People's Democracies of Czechoslovakia and Rumania. And according to the most authoritative opinion available in Budapest, the Government is more than somewhat preoccupied with the possible effects of the programme it has launched.

Nagy, in his inaugural speech of July 4, went far toward erasing the Communist revolution in that country.

He apologized that the Communist emphasis on industrialization—with most of the output going to Russia—was "exaggerated." He said that heavy industrial workers had been pressed too hard. The "defining" standard of living must be raised. The Government would issue licenses for the resumption of private industry on a local scale such as the local shoe-maker, the watch repairman, the tailor.

BRACE APPLIED
The speech flabbergasted nearly everyone. Peasants who had been forced into co-operatives and collectivized walked out. They took the Premier's words at face value. Applications came in from artisans eager to begin work in jewelry shops, tailor shops, camera shops.

Matyas Rakosi, the bullet-headed No. 1 Hungarian Communist who stepped aside to permit Nagy to govern, the "New Look," took control again after he saw the too enthusiastic response to the speech.

Rakosi considerably modified Nagy's promises. He applied the brake. Peasants, he said, could not leave the co-operatives and collectivized until October 1—after the harvest is in. The release of thousands from internment camps and those deported from key cities as "undesirables" would take time. Rakosi expressed the hope that it could be done by October 1.

Some diplomatic observers in Budapest think it may take force to keep the bitter peasants on the collectivized and co-operatives after October 1.

Quirino On Way Home

Washington, Aug. 24. President Elpidio Quirino told reporters today that he felt fighting fit for the election campaign awaiting him on his return to Manila.

His doctor warned that the President will need a good fortnight to recuperate from the double operation he underwent at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore for an ulcer of the stomach.

President Quirino is suffering from an attack of gout and finds difficulty in walking. He left for San Francisco today in a Philippine Air Line plane and flies to Honolulu on August 23, returning to Manila after two or three days' rest at Oahu.—France Press.

Massive Kremlin Offensive

New York, Aug. 24. The Soviet Union had now launched its most massive offensive to pry Germany loose from the West and thus break up all further efforts towards European unification as an essential step toward the establishment of their own hegemony over the Continent, the New York Times said today.

The newspaper added: "But there is every evidence that the latest Soviet offensive is a short of Soviet expectations and is in fact, turning into a boom-rang."

"For the one thing the Soviets fail to promise is the genuinely free elections on which both Western powers and the Germans themselves, including the Socialists, insist as the only possible basis for German unification and an all-German Government able to participate in the peace negotiations...."

"Instead of splitting German opinion, the Soviets are helping to consolidate it, and the same is true of European opinion in general."—Reuter.

Will Not Sell To Europe

Santiago, Aug. 24. The Foreign Minister Oscar Fierro, said last night that Chile will accept no European offers for copper while the present price negotiations with the United States are in progress.

Senior Fierro said that Chile's recent offers to do business with "any country in the world," generally regarded as a threat to sell copper to the Soviet world unless America meets Chile's inflated price for the strategic metal, involves no unfriendly intentions toward the United States.—United Press.

Near Miracle Of Survival

Pombal, Portugal, Aug. 24. Joaquim Mendes Cordeiro, 38, walked away from the wrong steps when he left hospital here—and was found 27 days later locked in an underground storeroom.

His friends thought he was still in hospital—as a patient—and the hospital thought he had left.

Now Joaquim, who had no food or drink throughout his ordeal, and was found apparently lifeless in a patient again, gradually recovering his health and strength.—China Mail Special.

Refusal To Build Trawlers For Russia

Decision Attacked By Labour MP

London, Aug. 24. Mr Hector Hughes, a Labour member of Parliament, said today he had protested to the Government that Britain's refusal of Russian orders to build trawlers and fish factory ships here would hand this market over to other continental nations.

Last week a Board of Trade spokesman said two British firms had asked the Government's permission to build fishing boats for Russia. The orders were under consideration by the Board of Trade "because it is always a feasible argument that fishing trawlers could be converted into minesweepers."

The spokesman was commenting on questions put to Mr Peter Thorneycroft, President of the Board of Trade, by Mr Hughes.

Mr Hughes said today he had written to Mr H. R. Mackeson, Secretary for Overseas Trade, saying: "To refuse such offers of foreign markets for British products will hand such markets over to other Continental nations now energetically seeking them; will frustrate British trade expansion and will impose on British industry and workers both short-term and long-term disadvantages."

"A McCarthyite mind can see war potential in anything. Our national aim should be to extend with courage British international trade as a foundation for world peace, free from hysterical ideological fears."

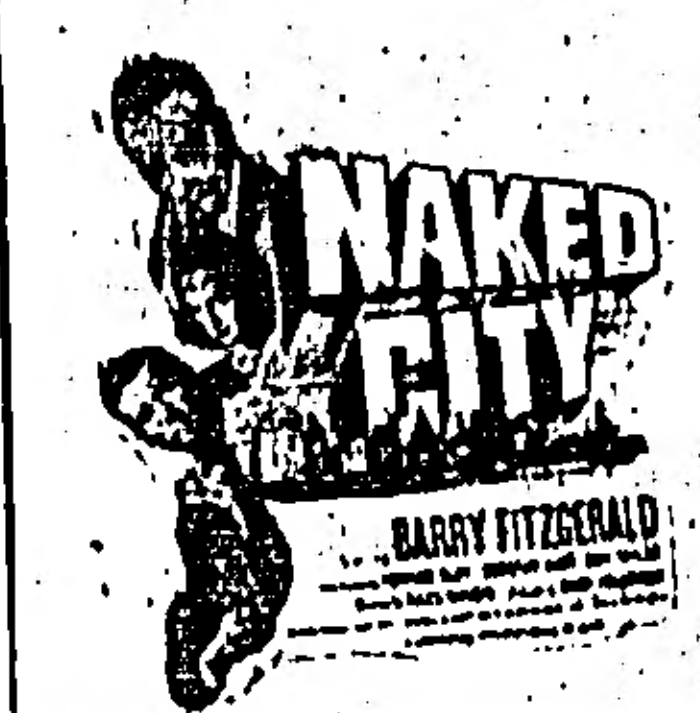
"I urge the Government to deal on this basis with these orders for British shipbuilding yards."—China Mail Special.

Crow Starts Blaze

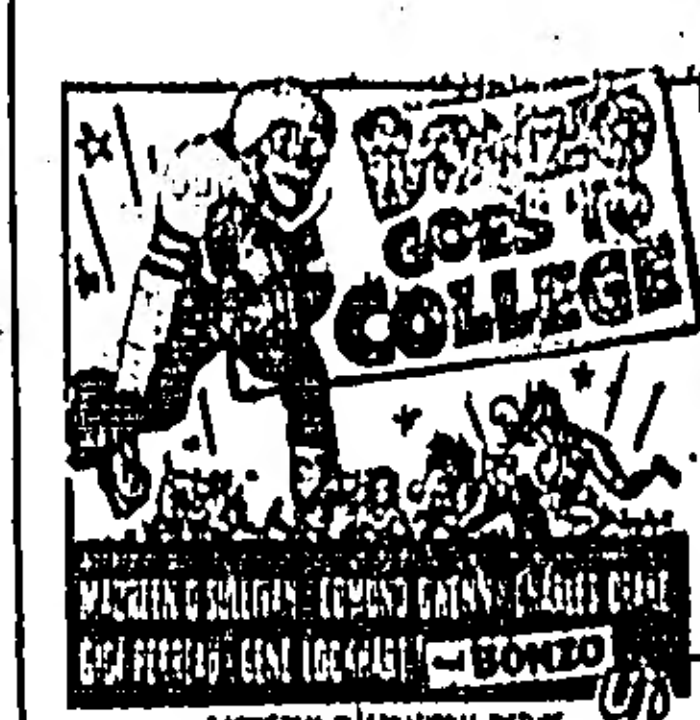
Colombo, Aug. 24. A crow stole a burning wick from an oil lamp at Meehall South, near here, but dropped it on a palm-thatched roof. As a result three houses were burnt down.—China Mail Special.

LEE GREAT WORLD

TO-DAY
At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
The Most Exciting Suspense Thriller Ever Filmed!
Winner of Two Academy Awards!!

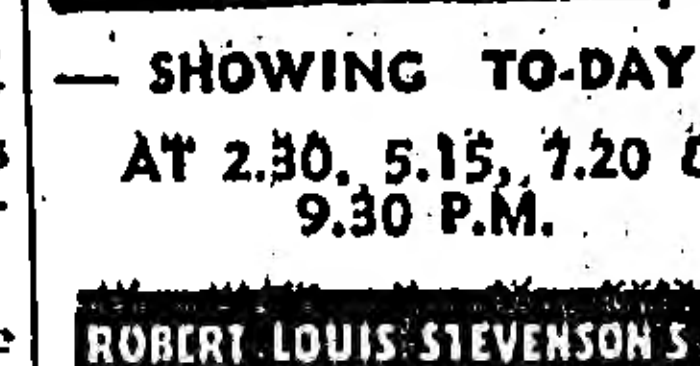


NEXT CHANGE



MAJESTIC

SHOWING TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.



CHARLES BORIS LAUGHTON-KARLOFF

SALLY FOREST - RICHARD STAPLEY

NEXT CHANGE

"THE MAN FROM PLANET X"



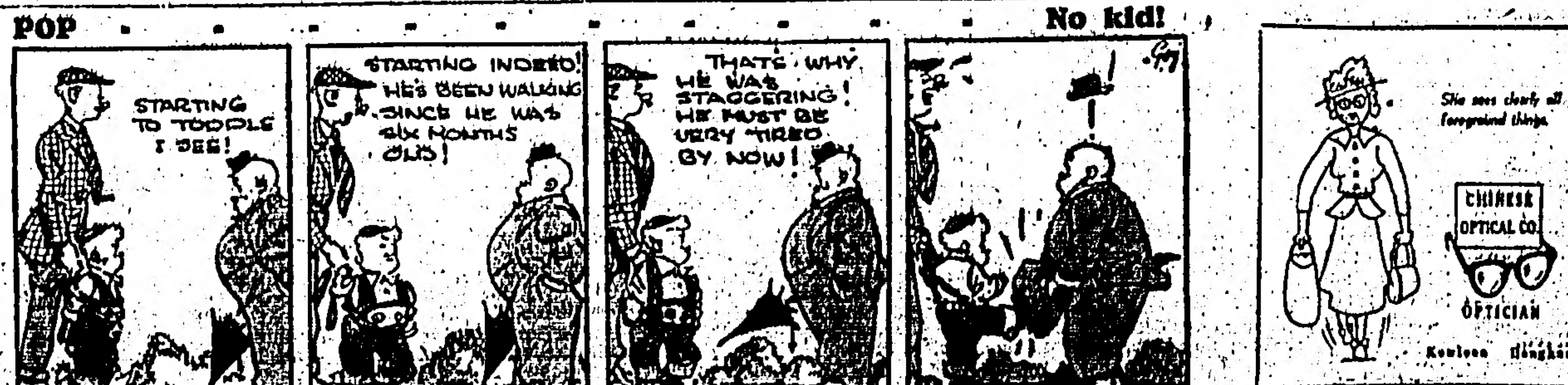
SHOWING TO-DAY
At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

Would you say the words she longs to hear?

I Believe in You

COMMENCING AUG. 27th
50 YEARS OF THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD, THE MOST WONDERFUL & DRAMATIC YEARS THAT HUMANITY EVER LIVED.

"DAY OF OUR YEARS"



Bold New Concept Of Defence In Middle East

Nationalist Force Again Active In Burma

Rangoon, Aug. 24. Chinese Nationalist guerrillas have seized Kengtung Principality, it was reported today.

The principality lies within the territory of Mong Nai, a princely State on the west bank of the Salween River, 80 miles east of Tanungyi, capital of the Southern Shan States.

The local ruler was captured and carried into captivity, the reports added.

The ruler of Mong Nai State, who was on a visit to Kengtung, fled from the area when he heard that the Chinese Nationalists were advancing into the territory.

Burmese troops cleared the Central Salween sector of Chinese guerrillas in an offensive operation early this year but latest army reports indicated that the guerrillas have returned to this area and are spreading along the entire length of it in search of supplies.

Government troops killed 10 "white flag" Communists in a battle 10 miles north of Mandalay city of Central Burma, another report said.

(The "white flag" Communists are the large group of Burmese Communists)—Reuter.

Sulphate For Formosa

Tokyo, Aug. 24. Japan will export to Formosa 250,000 tons of sulphate of ammonia.

An agreement on the shipment of fertilisers was concluded here between the Japan Ammonium Sulphate Makers Association and the Formosan Government's Central Trust Bureau.

Under this agreement, Japan will ship to Formosa 120,000 tons of ammonium sulphate by the end of this year. The remaining 130,000 tons will be shipped during the period from January to July, next year.

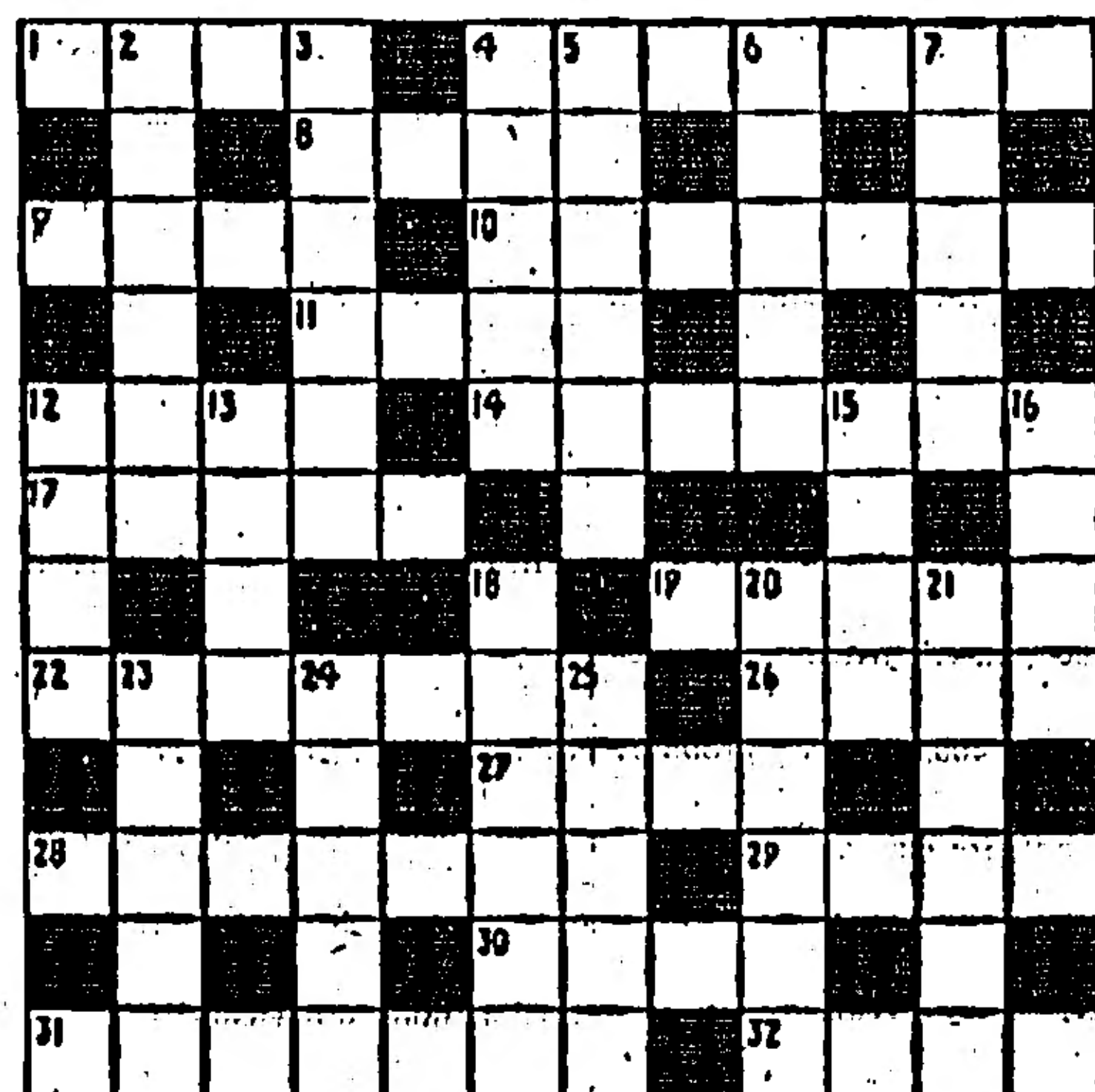
The first ship to carry fertilisers will leave Japan around mid-September and the price of this commodity per ton will be \$56.00 f.o.b.—France-Press.

DIAMOND CUT DIAMOND

Almansa, Spain, Aug. 24. A sparrow took a diamond ring worth 5,000 pesetas (£45 sterling) from the dressing-table of Senorita Maria del Rosario Suez while she was taking a bath.

A little later her cat killed a sparrow in the garden and the ring was found alongside. It is assumed the bird had the ring in its beak when it was attacked.—China Mail Special.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1 Equips (4).
- 4 Covered (4).
- 8 Equal (4).
- 9 Ancient Peruvian (4).
- 10 Obvious (7).
- 11 Platform (5).
- 12 Minute passage in skin (4).
- 14 Freedoms (4).
- 17 Dives (4).
- 19 Indefinite (5).
- 22 Handled (7).
- 26 Sell (4).
- 27 Secure (4).
- 28 Controller (7).
- 29 Unknown (4).
- 30 Form (4).
- 31 Throughfare (7).
- 32 Cast off (4).

DOWN

- 2 Haphazard (6).
- 3 Impertinent (6).
- 4 Evil spirit (5).
- 5 Gets up (6).
- 6 Pares (5).
- 7 Governor (5).
- 12 Agreement (4).
- 13 Strategem (4).
- 15 Press (4).
- 16 Supplemented (4).
- 18 Abandon (6).
- 20 Wards off (6).
- 21 False (6).
- 23 Cook (5).
- 24 Consensus of (5).
- 25 Challenges (5).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD:—Across: 1 Reform, 5 Remit, 8 Esop, 9 Threat, 10 Tunic, 11 Rubid, 12 Iris, 13 Rests, 16 Modest, 18 Adored, 20 Ruled, 22 Aria, 23 Vital, 25 Mavis, 26 Sullen, 27 Steer, 28 Meloe, 29 Sensed, Down: 1 Retainer, 2 Farical, 3 Rear, 4 Matador, 5 Redford, 6 Eluder, 7 Idiot, 14 Startles, 15 Strained, 16 Modiste, 17 Dismiss, 19 Devise, 21 Usage, 24 Lark.

Atomic Warfare Exercise Held At Staff College



General Gruenther, Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, and his Deputy, Field-Marshal Viscount Montgomery, (shown together) as well as high-ranking British and Commonwealth officers recently attended a "blackboard" exercise on atomic warfare problems at the Staff College at Camberley, Surrey. The exercise, called "Forward On," was presided over by the Chief of the Imperial General Staff, Field-Marshal Sir John Harding.

Self-Sufficiency In Economic Field Urged On Japan

Tokyo, Aug. 24.

Maximum utilisation of the nation's natural resources to make it economically self-sufficient was urged in an official pamphlet issued by the Prime Minister's Office.

"Japan and its Natural Resources of Tomorrow," published at the week-end, analyses the current situation of Japan's food, textiles, industrial raw materials, coal and power.

Townsend Returning To Britain

London, Aug. 24.

The Air Ministry said today that Captain Townsend's return to Britain shortly, his first return home since he was transferred to Brussels on a wave of gossip linking him romantically with Princess Margaret.

The visit will be strictly official; the Air Ministry said. Capt. Townsend will attend conferences of British Air Attaches here and attend the Farnborough Air Show put on by the Society of British Aircraft Manufacturers.

Princess Margaret is at Balmoral Castle in Scotland for the Autumn.

Some London newspapers called Captain Townsend's transfer to Belgium last July 15 an "exile" for the 38-year-old flier because rumours had mushroomed that an "impossible" love affair had begun between him and the Princess, now 25.

It was doubtful whether Captain Townsend would see Princess Margaret on his visit to London next month.

The Farnborough Air Show runs from September 7 to September 15.—United Press.

Burma Offer Of Rice To Ceylon

Colombo, Aug. 24.

Burma has offered to supply Ceylon with a substantial amount of rice at \$50 per ton.

Ceylon's annual rice requirements are estimated at 480,000 tons of which China supplies 270,000 tons under a five-year rubber-rice agreement.

Burma's offer would help cover up the entire balance of rice requirements.

The price quoted by Burma was \$4 less than Ceylon now pays per ton of Chinese rice.

It is stated that Burma's favourable offer is attributed to a decline in American rice purchases since the Korean truce and also to India's decision cutting rice imports by several million tons.

Ceylon's Food Minister, Sir Oliver Goonetilleke, is now in India on the way to Rangoon to finalise the rice negotiations with Burma.

Tokyo Gives Warning

Tokyo, Aug. 24.

"White Paper" on the labour situation during the last year, warned of increasing population pressure and unemployment in Japan.

The Ministry called for expanded economic activities through more foreign trade and development of natural resources.

Although the number of unemployed did not increase statistically despite the national slump due to tapering off of the Korean war boom, the new labour crop had been absorbed into agriculture and small enterprises with a worsening of the employment situation.

It had received no indication that the Soviet Union would

34 Countries Sign New Agreement On Sugar Prices

London, Aug. 24.

A new sugar agreement, designed to assure supplies of sugar to importing countries and markets for sugar to exporting countries at "equitable and stable prices," was signed today by most of the delegates to the London sugar conference.

Sir Wilfrid Eady, of Britain, who presided over the talks, told the final plenary session today that some delegates would sign the pact tomorrow.

The agreement is subject to ratification and signature but a delegate does not in any way commit his government to adhere to the agreement. Neither does a signature by a delegate necessarily commit him to recommend the agreement to his government.

The pact primarily aims at assuring supplies of sugar to importing countries and markets for sugar to exporting nations at "equitable and stable prices."

Other main objectives are:

1. To increase the consumption of sugar throughout the world.
2. To maintain the purchasing power in world markets of countries on whose economies are largely dependent upon the production or export of sugar.

BASIC TONNAGES

An article in the agreement sets out the basic export tonnages for each of the quota years for the producing countries.

Cuba's quota at 2,250,000 tons is the largest.

That of Russia is put at 200,000 tons.

The agreement is not subject to denunciation and will remain open for signature until October 31, 1953.

It provides for setting up an international sugar council, which is expected to meet for the first time on December 10 next and which will meet at least once a year.

SOME REDUCTION

Both importing and exporting countries will be represented and the Council is empowered to deal with disputes arising out of the agreement.

Some reduction has been made in the total quantity of sugar which the producers had proposed to export since the proposed exports exceeded the market requirements.

Producers in accepting this necessary reduction had in mind the value of the agreement in bringing some stability to the international trade in sugar.

Russia, which today signed the pact, made this reservation: "In view of the social and economic structure of the Soviet Union and its planned economy," the article relating to limitations of production and the stocks of sugar and the article dealing with the subsidising of exports should not be applicable.

AN UNDERTAKING

The Soviet delegate pointed out that though Russia would take part in the work of the Council on which Nationalist China was represented this did not imply any recognition of the Nationalist Government.

An article of the agreement provides that the governments of Britain, Australia and South Africa undertake that net exports of sugar by the exporting countries shall not exceed the following totals:

1. In the calendar year 1954 and 1955 the total is 2,413,793 tons.
2. In the calendar year 1956 it is 2,400,918 tons.

SHARE LEFT

These limitations have the effect of leaving available to the free market a share in the sugar markets of Commonwealth countries.

Nothing in the article shall prevent any participating country exporting to the free market from exporting sugar to any country within the British Commonwealth "nor within the quantitative limits provided by the pact and any country may export surplus sugar to the free market."

Each participating government agrees to take its action to reduce exportations in accordance with the pact, including those imposing export controls and quotas, including monopoly and fiscal and other measures.

This is put into the agreement for making sugar more freely available to consumers.—China Mail Special.

Queen May Wear Huia Feathers

Wellington, Aug. 24.

The Queen may wear the huia feathers which the Maori people presented to her at her Coronation when she toured New Zealand at the year's end.

Mr E. B. Corbett, Minister of Maori Affairs, who handed the Queen the waka huia, a carved box containing the huia feathers, said on his return that she will keep in mind the Maori request for her to wear the feathers on an appropriate occasion during the Royal visit.—China Mail Special.

Girl's Escapade Has Sequel

Athens, Aug. 24.

M. Stefanos Stefanopoulos, Minister of Foreign Affairs, has decided to present in Parliament a draft law punishing up to five months imprisonment women who visit Greek monasteries.

A young Greek woman was expatriated by the Greek Church recently for visiting several monasteries dressed in a map and subsequently publishing reports of her visit with photographs in a newspaper.—China Mail Special.

TO REPORT ON TALKS IN MOSCOW

Berlin, Aug. 25.

All East German radio stations will broadcast a two-day special plenary session of the Volkskammer, the Lower House of Parliament, which opens this afternoon.

The only point on the agenda is a report of the Government delegation on its negotiations in Moscow last week, which brought East Germany a series of concessions.

This will be followed by a debate on the report. The Volkskammer is expected to approve unanimously the results of the Moscow talks as laid down in communiques published on Sunday morning.

Judging from previous similar events, the House will also approve a message of gratitude to the Soviet Prime Minister, Georgi Malenkov, for the "generous concessions" granted to East Germany.

These concessions included an end to reparations as from January 10, 1954, the return of Soviet-owned enterprises in West Germany, economic aid and an amnesty for German prisoners of war in the Soviet Union sentenced for war crimes.—Reuter.

INDIAN TROOPS FOR KOREA

Singapore, Aug. 24.

The first batch of 600 Indian troops and 21 officers who will supervise the exchange of war prisoners in Korea stayed only two hours in Singapore today before continuing their voyage on the troopship Dilligam.

Another 265 officers and men of the 60 Indian Field Ambulance Unit, already in Singapore, will sail on Tuesday for Japan.—France-Press.

Problem Of POW's Humanitarian, Not Political Issue

Geneva, Aug. 24.

Mr James C. Dunn, United States Ambassador to Spain, said today his Government regarded the problem of World War II prisoners still held in the Soviet Union as being a humanitarian and not a political one.

"I want to stress the importance of the question which is given in the United States," he said.

Mr Dunn is here for the session of the United Nations Commission on prisoners of war which opened today.

"Its terms of reference are to 'settle the questions of prisoners of war in a purely humanitarian spirit and on acceptable terms to all governments concerned'."

Mr Dunn told a press conference that he was attending "because of the great interest in the United States on the problem."

In reply to a question on the recent announcement that German prisoners of war would be returned, Mr Dunn said, "This does not seem to affect the general problem. The statement was vague and restricted and was connected with the arrangements recently made in Moscow."

It had received no indication that the Soviet Union would

FRANCE: A RICH LAND GROWN POOR IN SPIRIT

By NOEL BARBER

FRANCE is the last great country of yesterday in the world of tomorrow. It is her greatest tragedy, for it means the French no longer realise that without change you decay.

This is the fruitful land, with riches to lavish on the rest of Europe, with gifted brains, with a scintillating zest for life that should be leading the rest of Europe across the lush green fields of a better world, instead of staggering blindly across a spiritual desert lured on by the mirages of "the good old days."

Once again, more strikes tear the country in two. Is it because of the down-trodden poor, of the lack of justice, of overwork for underpay, of starvation, and misery?

Ignored

NO, that is only partly true. It is true that the postal workers (who started the strike) are underpaid. So are many millions in France by our standards, and there is much that should be done for them. Too often they have been cynically ignored.

But there is another side of the picture too. Many people strike for a standard of living that is far higher than thousands enjoy in England.

I lived in France for eight years until this summer, and though food was expensive I look back with envy on those days of a month or two ago when I paid 2s. for 20 cigarettes, 6d. a pint for wine, 16s. for a bottle of gin, £1 for a bottle of brandy. One had cheap seats at the cinema, controlled rents (often only a week in central Paris), and—like everybody else in France—a month's holiday with pay each year and a month's extra pay at Christmas.

No, wages are not the only reason for these strikes and for the apparently incurable disease that has swept France since the end of the war. There is one thing more that is missing—any sign of spiritual belief in the future of France, and it has bred a desperate cynicism so that now the Frenchman lives for today and forgets tomorrow.

All he wants is that his country should—for as long as the good times last—be as gay and enjoyable as it was before the war; and in

that he has certainly succeeded, but at what a cost. This paradise of dummy goods in the window has been achieved at the expense of self-discipline and any altruistic thought for the future of both France and the world.

As one who loves France let me say there are many fine Frenchmen. They are everywhere. But the conditions that exist today do not give them any opportunities for there is always somebody around the corner to strangle at birth the genesis of new ideas that would bring back to France the glory that rightly should be hers.

While the honest strive against difficulties there are thousands who salt their money abroad or in gold.

There is enough gold hidden in France to give every man, woman, and child in the country £70 each. There are more plush American cars in the Champs-Élysées (and they can only be bought with dollars) than in any country outside the U.S.

Yet only 5,000 Frenchmen declared their last year's income at £2,000 or more.

Cynicism

CYNICISM has brought this about, but not only cynicism. France's very structure has changed since "the good old days" she loves to touch. Before the first war four out of five Frenchmen produced food, clothing, coal, and shelter, and one out of five lived by his wits. Today only two-thirds of the people provide the stuff of life, and a third try to live by their wits.

It is just too big a burden for France's dwindling number of producers to bear. The end result is that this rich country struggles desperately for food, coal, and housing, yet has a staggering surplus of such metaphysical production as entertainment and red tape.

This dearth has been aggravated by the long war in Indo-China that has drained France almost to death. Because of all this the country is crowded with discontented and eloquent semi-intellectuals who produce nothing tangible towards the resurgence of France, and who when a strike starts with a genuine grievance (as most French strikes do) immediately enlarge it, take it away from its original issue and, aided by the Communists, turn it into a political battle.

The political issue cannot be solved because the politicians are not strong enough. Each Prime Minister is at the mercy of his M.P.s, for France is ruled by her Deputies, who have all the power but none of the responsibilities.

What matter to them if a Government falls? They still keep their jobs. And the Prime Minister has to go tooting around the dozen or more parties of every shade, wheedling support from them, yet knowing it can be withdrawn at any moment. And since there is no single political party strong enough to keep a Government going, even the honest politicians cannot grope towards the future.

Admirers

WHAT wonder that the dazed little Frenchman-in-the-street is in danger of giving up hope? He mustn't. It would be idle to deny that France is drifting, but if hope goes there can never be a moral renaissance. And France at least is rich in one thing. She has people in every corner of the world who love her, who always will, who admire her for what she has given to the world. With that there is always room for the hope that Cocteau called "the second soul of the unhappy."

Malenkov Out For Profit

by GWILYM WILLIAMS

WE have thought it would come to this? After all the hate-filled attacks on capitalism by Karl Marx, after the outpourings of Friedrich Engels, the vitriol of Lenin, the Stalin sledgehammer aimed at the iniquity of making money, what happens?

Why, here is Communist Russia getting worried about her own profits.

Even a Communist State has to keep books. Even a Communist-run factory has to know, at some stage, how its incomings compare with its output.

But Soviet accountancy is in such a gigantic muddle that the Russian Government has suddenly woken up, since the death of Stalin, to find itself in serious financial straits.

So it may be that the cost accounting, that white-collared symbol of the capitalist system, will displace the atom scientist as the most important technician in Russia.

All the plans for raising living standards could founder because the Russian concerns which make profits get fewer every year.

It is not fantastic to suppose that instead of tempting atom men and diplomats to Russia Red emissaries will soon be combing the West for men who can keep books. Russians are traditionally bad at accounts.

ABACUS-MINDED

Until quite recently large masses rubbed along with the abacus—those rows of beads to help children count. And there are still plenty of abacus-minded men in top jobs in Russian factories.

The absence of trained men who understand costing in the capitalist and not the Marxian way is at last being appreciated as a fundamental deficiency in the Russian economy.

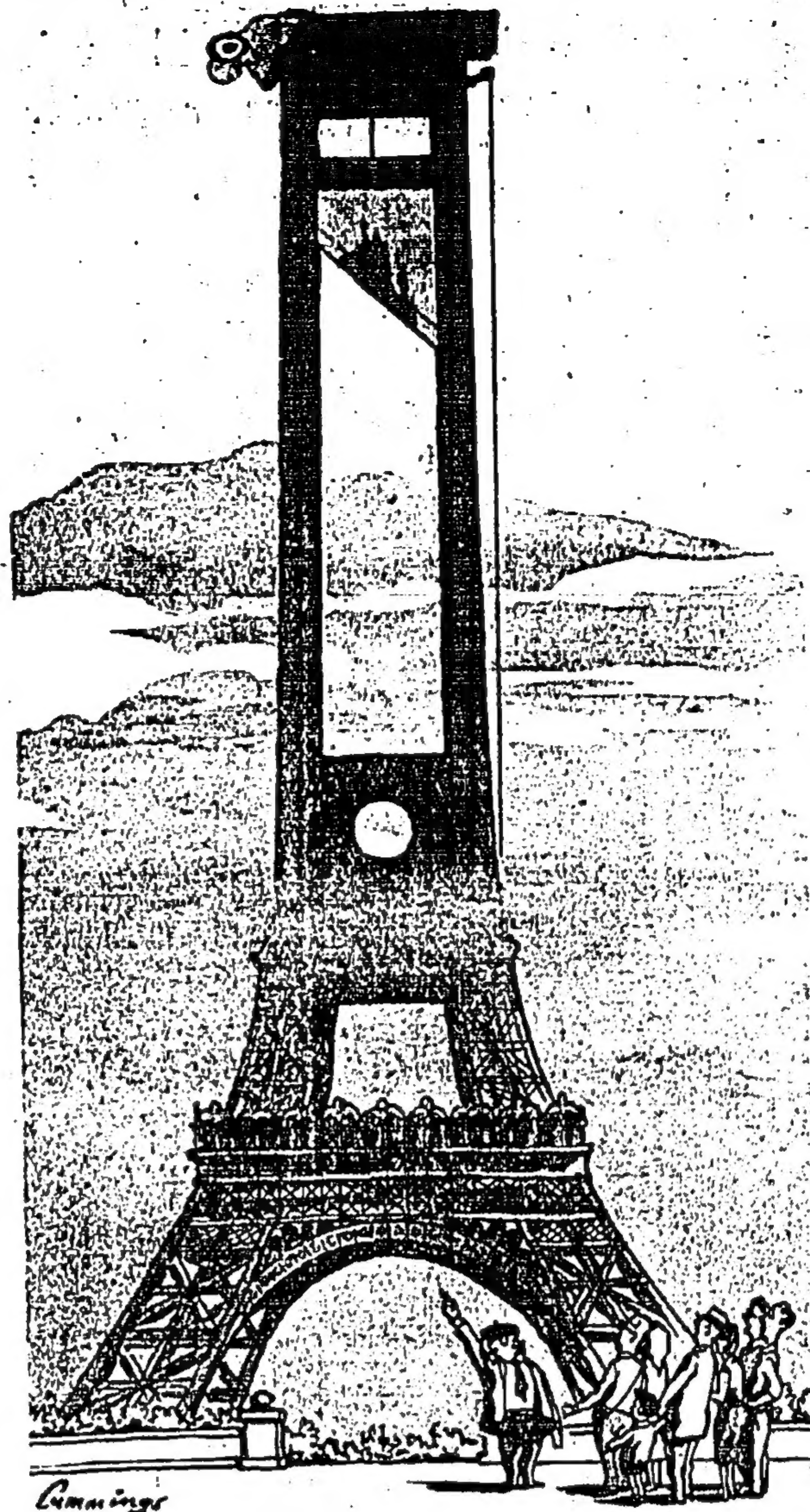
In fact, Premier Malenkov had to devote much of his last speech to the profit and loss theme, just like the chairman of a trading company in Britain talking to his shareholders.

Behind Malenkov's assessment of Russian industrial and agricultural prospects there is clearly deep disquiet at the ruinous losses that are eating up the capital of the Soviet Union.

The trouble starts with coal and timber—two key industries. Both should be making large profits. But the Russian Coal Board loses every year far more than its counterpart in Britain.

And only abnormal incompetence can account for the vast losses in the timber industry. Good prices should be obtained in world markets, where there is a keen demand. Wages are low, and much of the work in the forests is done by prison labour for nothing. Yet the timber industry is deeply in the red.

The next Soviet slogan may well be "Back to the Profit Motive." Unless Malenkov is first eliminated as a crypto-capitalist.



"And there, Mesdames et Messieurs, is the famous Eiffel—er—Tower." London Express Service

JOHN DEANE POTTER goes from the racetrack to the finance fringe

THE 'CITY MAN' WHO DEALS IN RUMOURS

London. they sit in their customary seats in a cafe near the Stock Exchange.

And, because there is no income tax on Stock Exchange gains, a rumour man can make £5,000 a year tax free.

This is how he does it. He finds a company which has declared low dividends for years. He makes a prolonged, expert scrutiny of the balance sheet. Then he slips his coffee and says: "Did you hear that A—a big financier—is interested in getting control of XYZ company?"

The man to whom this is addressed is asked to regard it as confidential. But within a few minutes he is in another cafe whispering the news, just as he was intended to do.

WHISPER-BALL

BEFORE the rumour man starts the whisper-ball rolling he buys a sack of shares in the company, not in his own name of course.

Within a few hours the shares of XYZ company, which have not been active for months, begin to vibrate slightly on the exchange. As the clerks chalk the price rise on the board, people who have not heard the rumour begin to show interest.

The blue button men—the authorised clerks who can trade in the exchange—scamper through the back door into Shorters Court. There they unlock little mahogany boxes in the street walls. These contain telephones rented by their firms. They report the upward share swing and so the rumour extends.

Next day the investing public notices the rise and starts to come into the market. This is known to the stockbrokers as "the widows, orphans and parsons money."

If the rumour proves to be untrue they will suffer, not the immaculate operator sipping his coffee in the City cafe. He feels the pulse of the market as tenderly as a nurse in love with her patient and before the stock begins to falter he is out with a nice profit.

He is the ice-headed expert who operates skilfully in the nerve-loft atmosphere of Throgmorton Street where so many do not know what to believe.

LEAKAGES

Like so many upstarts, sometimes his rumours are true. And sometimes the big financier hears the rumour about himself and as a result it does become interested in the company. This possibility causes a lot of grey hair to sprout under City bowler hats.

One rumour worrying the City today concerns a firm of warehousemen. Someone whispered that a well-known store, with a huge branch in one of their buildings, have to renew their lease in two years.

Ah, say the rumour men, it will cost them a lot of money to do that. It might be cheaper for them to buy the building. Whatever happens the warehousemen will make money.

Then another man has heard for certain that a second firm is going to outbid the store for the site.

The warehouse directors have sent out a circular denying "rumours now being circulated." In spite of this the shares have risen 15s. in two months.

Other rumours are started by leakages.

NEW TARGETS

THE directors of a company decide that they would like to buy another business. Solicitors, accountants, and others are approached. Then a clerk in one of their offices hears something about the plan. And he pops into a cafe to talk to a man behind a coffee cup.

A strange adventure into the midnight depths of the Tyrrhenian Sea

Piccard Is Coy About His Dive

By BRIAN CONNELL

WHEN I first saw Professor Auguste Piccard he was about to be run down by a screaming conga line of eight-year-old Italian children on the open-air dance terrace of the Hotel Quisisana at Castellammare.

The Quisisana was the summer palace of the last King of the Two Sicilies. Now its gleaming pink stucco, half-way up Mount Fauto, with a superb view across the Bay of Naples to Vesuvius, houses teeming middle-class families on holiday.

It was 10.30 p.m. Italian children, it seems, stay up all night. The professor had been away all day in Naples getting new accumulator batteries for the bathyscaphe in which he hopes to go down thousands of feet in the Tyrrhenian deep off the island of Ponza.

From the royal suite, in which the Dowager Duchess of Aosta died in 1931, Piccard stalks twice daily down the hill to the little naval dockyard half a mile below.

The emaciated 66-year-old professor with his peculiar lulling gait, rather like a 6ft. 5in. Groucho Marx—white hair curling in a bob round his ears, spectacles with an extra pair of lenses which flap up on his forehead, giving him the air of an amiable four-eyed cyclops—has been one of the sights of Castellammare for four months.

On Guard

This little port, with its two slipways, immense factory, and the majority of its 40,000 inhabitants seemingly with no visible means of support, crammed into noisy tenements, polluting the bay, has found the professor's queer craft a rich source of humbug.

Barefoot urchins, dressed only from neck to waist, pluck at his coat-tails and beg him to bring up some "fritture di pesce," the indeterminate minnows and sardines which provide the poverty-

stricken Neapolitans with their occasional square meal.

Piccard lunges grimly through them and disappears into the guarded gates beyond which the bathyscaphe lies.

They are building a couple of small tankers along the curving mole and the square white conning tower with the name "Trieste" on the bathyscaphe is clearly visible about 150 yards away from the shore.

I went out in a rowboat to within a few yards of the flag-buoy marked "security zone," but was greeted by a hail of imprecations from a marine guard which had even my tough Neapolitan boatman rowing like a Diomedean Scull champion for the shore again.

Eye On Cash

For someone who looks like the epitome of an absent-minded professor, Piccard is a sharp business man.

The Italian navy has sunk £100,000 in the project so far. The professor has sold the film rights of his expedition for £15,000 and the newspaper and still picture rights for another substantial sum to a French syndicate.

Perhaps his son Jacques, 6ft. 7in. and an economist, looks after such sort details for him. Journalists are usually greeted with a demand for a firm offer from their proprietors of a stated sum for an interview. The security cordon round the dockyard would do credit to Harwell or Atom-grad.

The Italian Press is enraged, and the Navy Minister has been obliged to exert his authority to enable other Press men to sail in the tug which, in due course, will tow the bathyscaphe out to sea.

I cornered the professor at lunch the next day in the hotel. Over his boiled rice and melted butter and a few grapes I managed to persuade him into a few remarks.

I prompted him about the universal appeal of scientific exploits. "This expedition is purely exploratory," he said. "I want to prove that it is possible to descend to great depths and navigate there in perfect safety."

"Timidologists and sea-ologists can take over. Three-quarters of the earth's crust is an unknown quantity. I am trying to provide the means of discovering its composition, but I can give no date for the attempt."

Trial Trip

The professor will not have his craft called a bathyscaphe, which he described as the "captive and dangerous" object in which the American, Charles William Beebe, descended at the end of a cable to 3,000 feet off Bermuda in 1934.

Piccard's bathyscaphe is a sort of under-water dirigible, with many of the characteristics of an airship. And these are some details he gave me about it—

The gondola, a hollow, steel sphere, 70 ft. of scientific instruments, is 6ft. 6in. in diameter with walls nearly four inches thick, with a conical porthole four inches wide inside and 18 inches outside.

This is suspended under a "balloon" shaped like a stubby cigar about 30 feet long through which a coning tower gives access to the gondola. The balloon contains 25,000 gallons of petrol weighing 70 tons.

Other compartments contain nearly 10 tons of steel shot. The petrol, contained in 11 compartments in the float, is far buoyancy. The shot is held in place by electro-magnets which drop their load when the current is cut, permitting the bathyscaphe to rise.

Electric batteries provide the power for the two propellers maximum speed of 300 yards an hour for the pumps and for the powerful searchlights.

Pressure of water would crush the bathyscaphe at 50,000 feet. Piccard has set himself a "security depth" of 12-15,000 feet.

The accumulators were still not installed when the bathyscaphe made a trial plunge, of 10 feet in the dirty waters of the dockyard, with the professor and Jacques checking furiously for further defects.

But after that, the professor announced he will make his first deep-water descent outside Castellammare harbour at 8 a.m. the next day.

Time is working against the professor. Unfavourable currents after the end of August may oblige him to move the attempt from Ponza to Syracuse or Cape Matapan—or even force a postponement until next year.

A Rival

Worst of all, he has a rival. His first bathyscaphe, the "FRNS 2" in which he made a number of unsuccessful experiments off the Cape Verde Islands in 1948, was retained by the French Navy at Toulon. Now it has been rebuilt and tests are taking place.

On the wall of one of the dockyard buildings at Castellammare is the old Mussolini slogan: "We are a Mediterranean people and our destiny lies on the sea." For the time being the professor's destiny lies under the sea, but he may be beaten to it.

CHINESE CREEDS and CUSTOMS



by

V. R. BURKHARDT

ILLUSTRATED BY THE AUTHOR

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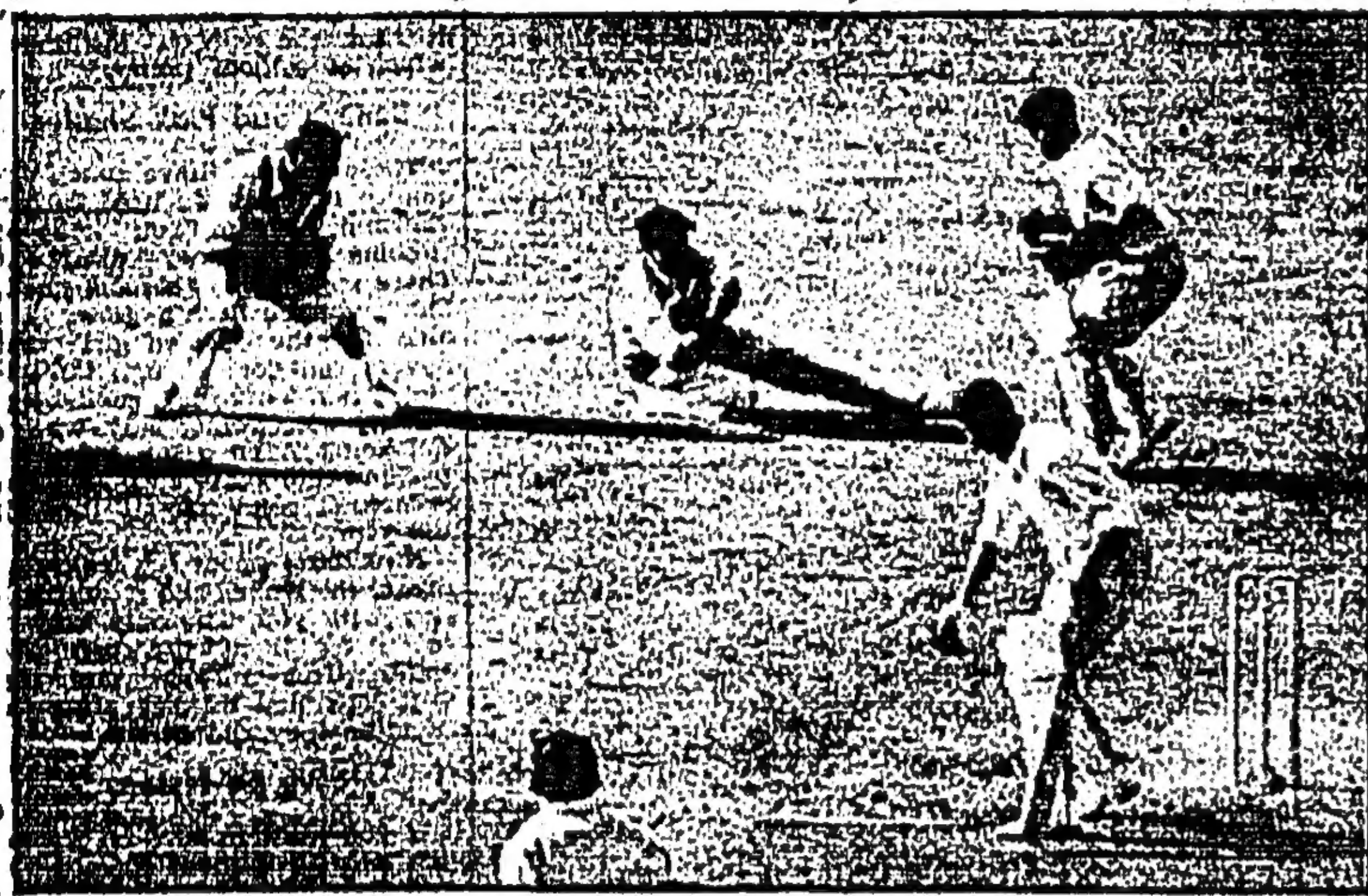
HONGKONG

KOWLOON

The Final Test—Second Day



Godfrey Evans is run out by Gili Langley during the second day's play in the final Test at the Oval.



Tom Graveney is well caught by Keith Miller in the slips off Ray Lindwall for 4 during England's first innings. — Central Press Photos.

Who Will Challenge Signor Ferrari?

By BASIL CARDEW

The brilliant, crafty Enzo Ferrari has secretly tested at Emola, Central Italy, his new two and a half litre car—built for next year's World Grand Prix Championship.

Over buckets of Lambrusco wine and plates of boiled salami and roast chicken, his three drivers, Ascari, Farina, and Villorossi, testified to its enormous speed, its splendid road-holding.

Then the portly, smiling Italian car-maker announced that he was ready for all comers next year—meaning the Germans, French, and British. Well, what shall we have to challenge him when in January the international Formula 1 is changed to racing-cars with two and a half litre unsupercharged engines?

What shall we have to counter such results as at this year's British Grand Prix at Silverstone when the first six cars were all Italian?

WHY CAN'T WE? Since Silverstone not a day has passed without my getting a call or a letter asking: "Why

can't we build a racing-car to beat the Continentals?" Why, these people ask, do the men whose companies make millions out of building cars in Britain refuse to tackle the job? Or subsidise those who are ready to have a go?

But these men have had a go. It was the BRM. But it never really worked. And the dream of Britain coming back into the high-speed competitive field of Formula 1 racing faded with it. In front of me is a list of 100 British companies that supported the car before it was bought last year by Alfred Owen.

How many know that Rolls-Royce, for instance, spent tens of thousands on supercharger research for the car? That Austin's, under L. P. Lord, threw in machinery and a fortune in cash? That Sir John Black's Standard Car Company of Coventry voluntarily did machine work—worth tens of thousands?

Lee and Landolt Win Open Pairs Match

In a postponed third round Colony Open Pairs lawn bowls match at Kowloon Dock yesterday, F. Lee and J. S. Landolt beat M. J. Divecha and F. R. Kermani by 24-18.

Divecha and Kermani opened up impressively in the initial stages of the game, jumping to a 10-4 lead at the end of the 7th head.

Lee and Landolt scored a five on the 8th head, drew level on the 9th with a single, and forged ahead to 24-10 by the next head with a four.

The losers found their bearings again on the 11th and 12th heads and scored a three and a single, to level the score at 14-14.

Despite some very fine shots by Kermani and Divecha, Lee and Landolt, who were in the lead, heads up, bowled on the next few heads to lead by 16-14, 18-17, 22-17 and 24-17 before conceding a single on the last

Or that other expensive help was unstintingly given by the great firms of Tube Investments, Lucas, Dunlop, and David Brown of Huddersfield?

Add to this the support of Alfred Owen, boss of 34 engineering companies; Percy Bilton, of oil; Dennis Flather, of steel; and Vandervell, of bearings. Why, then, did the car go wrong? Because it was handled with more enthusiasm than administrative skill. Every time it failed, for one reason or another.

Today the BRM is private property. It can race only under the colours of Alfred Owen. It can no longer compete in races that carry championship honours.

And, disillusioned, the big men of Britain's industry now look the other way when the BRM is mentioned. I believe that the BRM's early failures have done irreparable damage to British Grand Prix racing, mostly by discouraging these big men from risking their reputations again.

It is a bad, sad story. Our racing prestige in sports-car racing and in 500.c.c. events is unequalled. But the experiences of the BRM have killed enthusiasm for grand prix racing for a long time to come.

—(London Express Service)

COL. GARDNER AFTER SPEED RECORD

LI. Col. A. T. Goldie Gardner is to attempt to recapture two International Class records for Britain on Wednesday, September 10, when he takes his supercharged M.G. Special on to Belgium's autobahn at Jabbekke near Ostend.

The two International records are the Flying Kilometre and Flying Mile in Class E for cars with engine capacity up to 2,000 c.c., at present held by Piero Taruffi at 185.41 m.p.h. and 188.30 m.p.h., respectively.

On this occasion, Col. Gardner's car will be powered by a supercharged 1,517 c.c. unit specially bored out, but fundamentally, the same engine as used in the standard M.G. T.D. Sports Car.

Water Polo Match

In a water-polo match between Land Forces and the European YMCA played yesterday evening at the Victoria Recreation swimming pool, Land Forces won by 6 goals to 2.

SURREY IN A COMMANDING POSITION IN VITAL MATCH WITH MIDDLESEX

London, Aug. 24.

Surrey's spin bowlers, Tony Lock and Jim Laker, who played a big part in England's triumph over Australia, today bowled their county into a commanding position in their vital Championship match against Middlesex.

With only five second wickets left at the close, Middlesex were still 217 runs in arrears.

As the Oval pitch is taking considerable spin, Surrey should have little difficulty in taking the full 12 points tomorrow, which would considerably strengthen their bid to retain the Championship.

Middlesex lost their remaining five first innings wickets for only 43 runs, Lock claiming six wickets for 28 in the innings. Surrey, with a first innings lead of 81, fell for 174 when they batted a second time, leaving Middlesex to get 256 to win.

But Laker and Lock tied up the batsmen and at the close Middlesex had lost five wickets for 38.

Leicestershire gave a poor batting display today. Nottinghamshire had declared at 203 for seven and Leicestershire were due to follow on after being dismissed for 92, but there was not time to start their second knock.

Dooland and Stocks, the spinners, caused the havoc in Leicestershire's ranks, the last five wickets falling for 18 runs. It could not have been altogether the pitch as the home sides fall earlier scored freely, the eighth wicket putting on 74.

For the second day Derbyshire and Essex had a blank day, heavy rain again soaking the pitch.

Lancashire and Kent had only slightly better luck, no less than two hours' play was possible today after a blank Saturday.

This was a severe blow to Lancashire's championship hopes. Sussex, another side in the bid for top honours, ended the day needing only 17 runs to beat Gloucestershire.

CLOSE OF PLAY SCORES

The following were the close of play scores of first class cricket matches played today:

At Northampton: Glamorgan 237 and no runs for no wicket. Northamptonshire 238 for seven declared (Brookes 63, Oldfield 60).

At Nottingham: Nottinghamshire 203 for seven declared (Jeppson not out 51). Leicestershire 92 (Dooland four for 25). At Birmingham: Warwickshire 277, Yorkshire 185 for five (Watson 65). Rain restricted play.

At Worcester: Hampshire 392, Worcestershire 167 for three (Bird not out 62). Rain restricted play.

At Eastbourne: Gloucestershire 24 and 113 (James six for 10). Sussex 161 for one declared (Sheppard not out 126).

Church Choir At Bedser's Benefit

London, Aug. 24.

The Kingswood (Surrey) Cricket Club Committee will meet tonight to consider their reply to a request by the Bantwood Urban District Council, owners of their ground, for an explanation of matters connected with Alec Bedser's Benefit Match on Sunday, August 16.

A week ago, on Sunday, after evening, the Vicar of Kingswood, the Reverend D. C. Hampton-Smith, who plays for the Club's Second XI, walked from his adjacent church with full choir and before a congregation of some 4,000 cricket lovers conducted a religious service on the ground where the Club has played for the last 90 years.

The service signalled the end of the day's Benefit game for Alec Bedser who himself was present with Test bowler Tony Lock, former Australian test wicket-keeper Ben Barnett, and stage and radio personalities. Bedser's Benefit Fund was increased by £270 as a result of the game. — China Mail Special.

Water Polo Match

In a water-polo match between Land Forces and the European YMCA played yesterday evening at the Victoria Recreation swimming pool, Land Forces won by 6 goals to 2.

At Lords: The two-day match between the Army and the Royal Air Force was abandoned and drawn.

At Manchester: Lancashire versus Kent, Kent 73 for three. Rain curtailed play.

At Buxton: There was no play today in the match between Derbyshire and Essex owing to rain.

At the Oval: Surrey 236 and 174 (Times five for 60) Middlesex 155 (Lock six for 28) and 38 for five.—Reuter.

HOW DOES HE DO IT?

A Words-and-Picture Analysis Of A Wonder Runner

By CHAPMAN PINCHER

The picture below details the racing mechanism of the man who, barring accidents, seems destined to be the greatest middle-distance runner of all time—22-year-old Gordon Pirie, the Coulsdon, Surrey, bank clerk.

How can he pack so much power in such a slight frame that he can run six miles in less than half an hour?



Why is it that I, with leg muscles which look twice as powerful, have never been able to run more than half a mile without feeling fagged out?

Scientists, who compare Pirie with a machine, say he scores over ordinary specimens like me in three features—design, motive power, and fuel supply.

DESIGN His lean, lanky build gives him a huge stride—the eight feet—for little weight. A heavy muscular man would use up twice as much energy to move as fast.

And Pirie has no fat in his muscles to brake their action.

MOTIVE POWER

When ordinary muscles like mine are overworked they quickly become paralysed by their own waste products of which the chief is lactic acid, the acid in sour milk.

Pirie can tolerate greater amounts of lactic acid so that even after a 10-mile run his legs feel as though they still belong to him.

In long-distance races my legs always felt so leaden that they once enabled me to make school history by running 20 yards on a crowded sports field with my trousers flapping round my feet. It was not until some master shouted that I noticed.

FUEL SUPPLY

Pirie's blood-stream does out fuel to his muscles, in the form of sugar at a steady rate, which enables them to go on working almost indefinitely.

When I sprint for the bus about three times more blood flows through my leg muscles than when I am sitting. When Pirie leaps into action on the track the blood-flow to his muscles is probably increased nine-fold.

Do not be misled by that narrow chest. Pirie can absorb far more oxygen per minute than a muscle-bound all-in wrestler. He is literally a "great hearted" athlete because regular running at the astonishing rate of 120 miles a week has increased the size of his heart and the strength of its beat.

To do a similar amount of work my heart would probably have to pump at least 12 beats a minute faster than his. On top of all this Pirie has overwhelming determination—to "run his rivals into the ground," as he says.

—(London Express Service).

Final Test—Second Day



Dennis Compton falls when hitting out at a ball from Graeme Hole during England's first innings in the final Test at the Oval.—Central Press Photo.

Hongkong Boxing Association Founded

Without ostentation, history was made yesterday evening at the inaugural meeting of the Hongkong Amateur Boxing Association which took place at the VRC.

The need for a governing body to control local boxing has been felt ever since boxing took its place in the programme of local sports.

Hitherto various attempts at promotion of light programmes have been handicapped by the lack of proper and acceptable regulations and conditions and as much have been rendered more difficult despite the enthusiastic response of the public.

With the formation of this body, Hongkong can now be assured of its proper recognition in boxing circles abroad.

The meeting was opened by Mr. J. Skinner, who presented the draft constitution for the approval by those present and stated his pleasure in announcing the acceptance of the invitation by His Excellency The Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, G.C.M.G., to be Patron of the Association and also that of the Chief Justice, Sir Gerald Hume to be President.

Proceeding with the election of officers, the following were proposed and nominated unanimously.

OFFICERS ELECTED Vice Presidents.—Air Commodore R. C. Field, Mr. L. P. Kwok and Mr. J. Skinner; Chairman.—Mr. W. Stoker; Secretary.—Mr. L. G. Young; Treasurer.—Mr. B. F. Byrne; Medical Officers.—Wing Cdr. McCarthy, G.M. OBE and Dr. A. J. F. Eberley; Legal Officer.—Mr. D. B. Evans.

The officers elected are to serve a term of one year and are eligible for re-election after expiry of the term.

In the case of the Services, one representative acting on behalf of the three services would serve as Vice-President for the term and re-election would go in rotation. In this first term the Vice President was selected from the Royal Air Force. This would also apply in the case of the service Medical Officers.

AFFILIATION The Association would affiliate itself with the bodies governing international amateur boxing, the Amateur Sports Federation and the Olympic Committee of Hongkong, and hoped to participate in the Olympic, Asian, Empire and World Games.

Indoor Stadium At Queen Elizabeth II Youth Centre

The Queen Elizabeth II Youth Centre at Kowloon, which has taken a few months to complete at a cost of approximately \$800,000, will be officially opened by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham on Monday, September 7, 1953.

The amenities include a modern indoor stadium, for basketball, table tennis, and badminton capable of accommodating at least 3,000 spectators.

RUGBY LEAGUE

London, Aug. 24. Halifax beat Leigh 21-6 in a Rugby League match today. Reuter.

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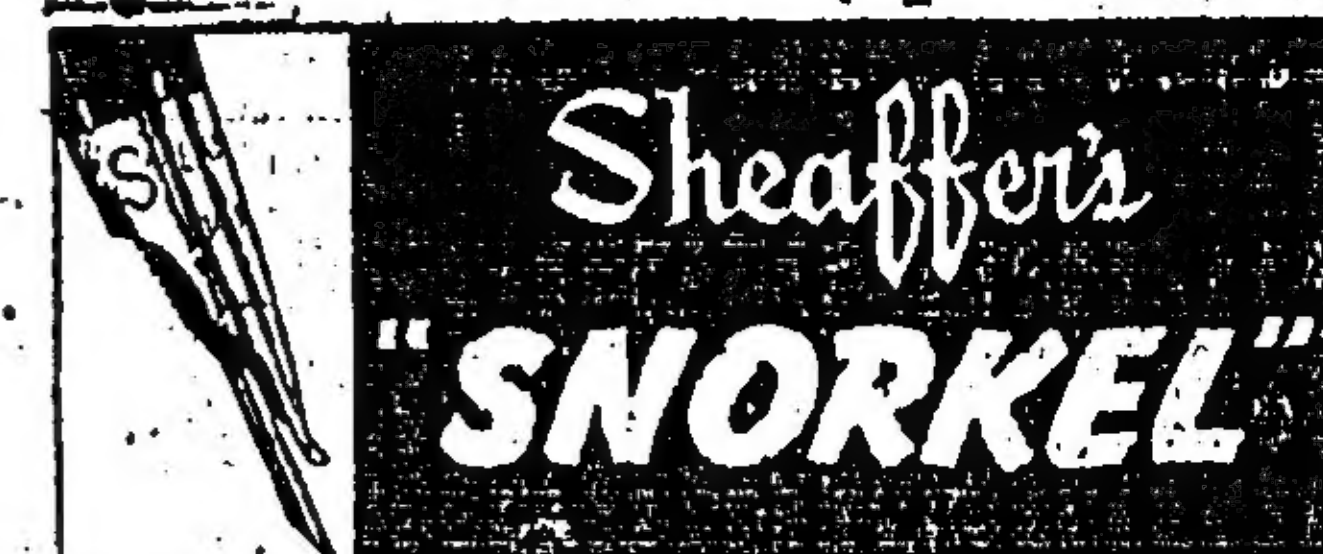
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TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 1953.



JOHN CLARKE'S
CASEBOOK

24-Hour Terror

THERE is no close-season for shoplifting, outside of the hours and days when the big stores are shut. There is no kind or class of woman of whom I should care to say "they're not the shoplifting sort."

It no more surprises those who go to court, to see the colonel's lady in the dock, than it does to see Judy O'Grady. Some, on the surface, seem to have greater excuse for stealing than others do. The pampered woman who brings along a psychiatrist to explain her aberration, compares unfavourably at first sight, with the poor widow who produces her budget to speak for her. Yet the first, possibly, glasses over private troubles she does not care to exhibit, and so appears worse than she is; while the second, with less at stake pulls out all the stops producing pity, that she can.

THE DIFFERENCE WHERE women shoplifters differ most is in their demeanour. From the attitude of some you might think that at worst they found the experience tedious and perhaps a little embarrassing. To others it is clearly a most agonising ordeal to stand and hear their names read out, and be accused, and have to answer to the accusation. To this second category Kitty belonged.

Kitty pleaded guilty, at Great Marlborough Street, to stealing a jumper, priced 8s. 11d.

She is a big, nice-looking girl of 20, whose fair complexion the jumper she stole would never have suited, though that is beside the point.

WHAT IS to the point is that Kitty was seen to steal, and a moment later knew she had been seen; it was then that 24 hours of terror began for her.

She hurried out of the shop, and in the street looked over her shoulder. Yes, she was being followed. She broke into a run, dived into a Tube station, gained the escalator.

She looked over her shoulder again; the two store-detectives were still on her tail.

At the bottom of the escalator she threw the jumper to the ground and headed for the escalator going up. She tried to run, slowed to a stop, was forced for want of breath to stop. She has never been very fit.

AT HER ELBOW SHE looked over her shoulder a third time. One of the detectives was gathering up the jumper, down below, the other was at her elbow.

"Haven't got anything, can't you see, haven't got anything on me, have I?" she said. It was no good.

"Her mother and father separated when she was three," the woman police officer told Mr Bennett in the morning, when the chase had been described.

She lived with her father since then. She had rheumatism the fever when she was nine, she wasn't able to work until she was 18½. She's had heart-trouble lately.

"She's an usherette at a cinema now, and relieves at the cash-desk. Her employer says she's honest and a good worker, he is prepared to take her back."

LOCKED UP THE detective stood down, and Kitty spoke, and told the whole story of the chase over again, in clipped, scared, Cockney accents, as if she were reliving every minute of all that had happened.

"They locked me up last night," she said. "I never been locked up before. I wouldn't do nothing wrong again, I wouldn't, never, never..."

The 18½, jumper, which she had not been able to afford because illness had kept her from work and she owed £2 to her father, cost Kitty a 40s. fine. Seeing her leave the court, needing help to get out, I wondered how much more the jumper had cost her than that.

Four Power Talks Invitation

Washington, Aug. 24. Informed diplomatic sources said today that the three Big Western Powers have decided to send notes to Moscow this week asking Soviet Russia to attend a four-power conference on Germany in Geneva on September 30.—United Press.

A Book For Everybody's Library

CHINESE CREDITS AND CUSTOMS. By V. R. Burkhart. With illustrations by the author. Printed and published by the South China Morning Post, Ltd. 31b. On sale at Hongkong and Kowloon offices of the BGM Post, Ltd.

This is by no means the first book to be written on the subject of Chinese creeds and customs, of their fairyland fantasy and fascinating legends, but it probably ranks as the most complete work of this nature—and the most delightful.

Colonel Burkhart possesses all the qualifications for writing such a book. Through long and practical experience of Things Chinese, an inexhaustible desire for knowledge of his subject, together with an infinite patience for collecting authentic material, Col. Burkhart has made himself the ideal person for compiling this volume.

It is a unique job of work, originating in part from a weekly series of articles contributed in the first place to the South China Sunday Morning Post and since then for nearly three years to the Sunday Post-Herald. They immediately captured the imagination of thousands of readers and have since held their fascinated interest.

A close analysis of the 57 chapters, which make up this enjoyable volume is not necessary. Suffice to say they cover, authoritatively but at the same time charmingly, historical and legendary festivals, fortune-telling, weddings, funerals, religious observances, the Gods, the patron Saints, charms and talismans, and there is not a single page which fails to grip the reader's attention and imagination.

The author has embellished a first-class, equally fine illustrations of his own. The book is handsomely produced, including some lovely colour plates.

Any home library without this book is that much the poorer.

Death Of Old "China Hand" In America

His many friends and business associates throughout the Far East will learn with regret of the death in Pasadena, California, on Sunday of Mr. Daniel Burnett Sparks, senior partner in the firm of D. B. Sparks and Co., manufacturers of typewriters, formerly of Hongkong.

Affectionately known as "D.B.", Mr. Sparks founded the firm which bears his name in Shanghai in 1919 and travelled extensively throughout India, Thailand, Malaya, the Philippines, Japan and China, in each of which countries he had a host of friends.

Owing to an affliction from which he suffered from early age he led a somewhat retired social life, although he always maintained a keen interest in the American Club of Shanghai.

His health was seriously affected by interment in Shanghai during the war and he was repatriated as a stretcher case in the Greyhound in September, 1945, with recuperation that he saw the United States for the first time since coming to the Far East.

He leaves a widow, Mrs. Ethel Sparks, who was with him in Pasadena at the time of his death.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T. Time Signal and Program Summary: 6.02. Melody with the Stars. 6.30. Twilight Harmony. 7. The Farewell Dinner for the Commissioners of Police given by the Unofficial Members of the Executive and Legislative Councils. Speeches by His Excellency the Governor, Mr. Alexander Grantham, C.M.G., and Mr. D. W. MacIntosh, C.M.G., O.B.E. (Recorded from the Peninsula Hotel). 7.30. Charles Williams and his Orchestra. 7.30. The Demi-Heure Française. 7.40. Weather Report. 8. Time Signal. World News and News Talk. (London Relay). 8.10. Piano Recital. (Cheltenham Relay). 8.15. Ryma, S.J. (Studio). 8.30. "Gazette". A Reminiscence of the Thonida Valley. Written by Guy Thomas. Produced by Elwyn Evans (BBC75). 10.30. At the Ballet. "The Sleeping Beauty". (Cheltenham Relay). 11.00. Desormiere conducting L'Orchestre De La Societe Des Concerts Du Conservatoire De Paris. 11.05. Weather Report. 11.10. Radio News (London Relay). 11.15. Goodnight Music. God Save The Queen. 11.30. Close Down.

Russia Claims Hydrogen Bomb



Premier Georgi Malenkov, in a speech to the Supreme Soviet—the Russian Parliament—told the world the other day that the Soviet had the hydrogen bomb, reputed to be considerably more powerful than any atom bomb. Here Premier Malenkov is seen as he addressed the Supreme Soviet, at the Kremlin. — London Express.

Alleged Conspiracy: Bail Refused 7 Defendants

Applications for bail were refused by Mr T. Creedon at Kowloon this morning in the case in which seven accused including a Police interpreter were charged with conspiracy, following lengthy arguments by both Crown Counsel and the Defence Counsel.

The accused are Chu Kwanyee, 38, Police Interpreter, residing at No. 157, Pratas Street, second floor; Wong Kwong-cho, alias Wong Joe, 43, proprietor of the Kwong Wah Driving School of 30, Nam Chung Street, first floor; Yeung Kwok-hong, 32, proprietor of the Chung-Wan Driving School of 32, Tai Po Road, second floor; Mak Po-hon, 34, proprietor of the Po Kwong Driving School, of 14, Saigon Street, first floor; Kwok Kam, alias Kwok Chik-kuen, 31, proprietor of the Nam Fong Driving School of 99, Parkes Street, first floor; Lee Lin-biu, 20, waiter, of 57, Wal Chung Street, ground floor; and Chung Ling, 23, driving instructor, of 102, Austin Road, ground floor.

The first accused was represented by Mr A. S. C. Comber, the second by Mr F. X. W. Alameda, and the third and fourth by Mr R. W. S. Winter, instructed by Mr A. Y. Hon.

The accused are charged with having conspired, with others not in custody, to give fees to Sub-Inspector Royston Clivell in return for rewards for or otherwise on account of, his giving preferential treatment to certain members of the public and passing them in their driving examinations, between June 17 and August 21, 1953.

Mr O'Reilly Mayne, at the commencement of the hearing told the Court that there would be an application to have the case transferred to the District Court and for the time being he would ask for seven days' remand and would oppose bail.

Defence Counsel said they were renewing their applications for bail which were made at a previous hearing on Saturday.

Mr O'Reilly Mayne said that at this stage, the prosecution opposed bail on the grounds that if the accused were allowed bail at this stage the proper Police investigation of the case might well be hampered.

These reasons had been held by Mr Justice Gould, Mr O'Reilly Mayne continued, as proper and sufficient grounds for refusing bail in this Colony.

"I may say that these grounds may well have disappeared within seven days and at that stage there will be no opposition to bail by the Prosecution, provided that the bail will make it reasonably certain that the defendants will be sure to face their trial," Crown Counsel said.

The charge of this case was a particularly grave one, he said, and he proceeded to read the statement of the charge. It was alleged by the Prosecution that this conspiracy was very widespread and highly organised, he added.

Crown Counsel revealed that during the period alleged in the charge the number of pupils for driving tests interviewed by Inspectors totalled 240 and the amount of money offered to Inspectors in respect of the pupils was \$75,000.

SCHOOLBOYS ROBBED WHILE RETURNING FROM PICNIC

How three schoolboys returning from a picnic were held up and robbed by a gang of Chinese youths along a path leading down from Lion Rock Hill on May 10 last was related at the Criminal Sessions this morning, when four young Chinese appeared for trial before Mr Justice A. D. Scholes (acting Puisne Judge) and a Jury on charges of robbery with aggravation and receiving stolen property.

The accused were Ng Yick, alias Ah Ha, 22, Choi King-ii, 26, Lam Kei, 16, and Ng Wing-pun, alias Ah Ng, 25. They were charged with (1) robbing Ho Lin-wah of a wrist watch and \$4, and Cheung Ka-chai of a wrist watch and a fountain pen and (2) receiving a wrist watch and a fountain pen, the property of Cheung Ka-chai, knowing them to have been stolen.

All the accused pleaded not guilty, and a Jury of six men and a woman was empanelled.

The Prosecution was conducted by Mr Simon F. S. Li, Crown Counsel, with Det. Sub-Insps. Cheng Ka-cheung present for the Police.

Mr Li said the victims of the robbery were three schoolboys who had had a picnic at Shatin and were returning to Kowloon over Lion Rock Hill on May 10. As they were coming down the path, they met five persons, four adults and a boy.

One of these persons, later identified as the first accused, intercepted the leading schoolboy, who was about 10 yards ahead of his companions. The remainder of the gang then intercepted the other two students and proceeded to rob them of their watches, money and fountain pen.

Some intimidation was used, Crown Counsel declared. One of the gang held a chopper, while the boy had a bamboo pole.

Fourth accused took away a watch from one of the students, while second accused held the hands of another student to enable other members of the gang to relieve this victim of his watch and fountain pen.

THREATENED Before the gang left the scene, they threatened the students with injury if they should attempt to follow, and first accused, it was alleged, pulled up one of his trousers-legs and revealed a dagger strapped to his leg.

When the gang had gone, the students reported the affair to the Police. On May 20, on information received, the first three accused were arrested, and fourth accused was taken into custody on May 30. At subsequent identification parades, all four were picked out by the students as having taken part in the robbery. The man with the chopper, however, had not been arrested.

Mr Li added that one of the wrist watches was recovered from a pawnshop after the pawn tickets had been found in the possession of third accused, who also gave information which led to the recovery of the fountain pen.

Third accused, said Mr Li, was 16 years of age, his name had said he was 17 years old by Chinese reckoning.

Alan Chang, radiologist at Kowloon Hospital, gave evidence that he had carried out an examination of the third accused some time in May for the purpose of determining his age. He came to the conclusion that the boy was sixteen.

BOY RESISTS One of the schoolboys, Ho Lin-wah, described how the robbery occurred. He said that when members of the gang grabbed him, they alleged they were searching for opium. He resisted and said that if they wanted to carry out a search it should be done at the police station. One of the gang then produced a chopper and holding it against his arm when he tried to prevent fourth accused from taking his watch, threatened to chop him if he did not give up the article.

Fourth accused also took five \$1 notes from him, said Ho, but when witnesses pleaded that he lived on Hongkong Island and needed money to return home, the man with the chopper told fourth accused to hand some money back. Fourth accused then returned \$1 to him.

Corroborative evidence was given by Cheung Ka-chai, the second school-boy who was robbed.

The trial is proceeding.

RESCUED ALIVE FROM RUINS

Athens, Aug. 24. Two women were rescued alive today after being buried for 12 days beneath the ruins of their home destroyed in last week's earthquake at Angostoli on Cephalonia Island.

They had lived on raw potatoes while their relatives mourned for them.—Reuter.

Husband Barred As Crown Witness In Murder Trial

The Acting Chief Justice, Mr T. J. Gould, at the Criminal Sessions this morning decided that the Prosecution could not call the husband of a 24-year-old woman, on trial for the murder of her two-year-old son, to testify.

Mr A.J. Clifford, who, in that the accused went into hospital about 9 a.m. one morning to give birth, and by Su-lin, said he agreed with his Lordship's decision on the law although he wanted the man's evidence. He indicated that he might call the husband, Yeung Chi-hung for the Defence.

The woman is alleged to have caused the boy to fall from the second floor balcony of 124 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, where they lived, on May 17.

The Prosecution is being conducted by Mr D. N. E. Res, Crown Counsel, with Det. Insp. W. B. Scragg for the Police.

The trial is being heard before a male jury.

DEVOTED MOTHER Two women who lived on the same floor as the accused and her family testified this morning that she was a devoted mother and loved her older son (deceased), often carrying him even while she was at work.

The principal tenant, Lun Sap-see, said that the boy was very sickly and often cried. She had heard the husband of the accused saying his wife could not sleep at nights after the birth of her second boy ten days before the incident.

Cross-examined by Mr Clifford, Lun said that the elder boy did not like to sit down, so his mother had to carry him while she worked either in her arms or on her back. The couple owed her over a month's rent. They owed her rent every now and then and the husband would promise to pay after he had sold some goods.

Wong Oi-chun, who occupied the bed-space next to that of the accused and her family, said

Mr Clifford claimed that the woman was not lucid in her mind because once she used the wrong word "but" which meant "because" whereas the word "because" which meant "proper". The interpreter had written the word as spoken by the woman but in his translation had presumed she meant the other word and had translated it as "because" as well as "but". It was he who adhered to the meaning of the word, he wrote the sentence would have been nonsense and this was because her mind was not lucid.

The interpreter said that in Cantonese some people used the one word and some the other when they spoke and it meant the same thing, but if he were translating "We might as well both die" into Chinese he would himself use the word of Mr Clifford's choice, "but" yes.

The jury were cleared till this afternoon for Counsel to argue on the admissibility of the statement, which Mr Clifford claimed was made when the woman was not in her clear mind.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"When we get our clothes drier, you must promise to come over whenever you get any real important news like the Joneses' quarrel!"

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